(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 3 October 2002 (03.10.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 02/077183 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: C12N

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/09107

(22) International Filing Date: 21 March 2002 (21.03.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

09/815,242	21 March 2001 (21.03.2001)	US
09/948,993	6 September 2001 (06.09.2001)	US
60/342,923	25 October 2001 (25.10.2001)	US
10/072,851	8 February 2002 (08.02.2002)	US
60/362,699	6 March 2002 (06.03.2002)	US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ELITRA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. [US/US]; 3510 Dunhill Street, Suite A, San Diego, CA 92121 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

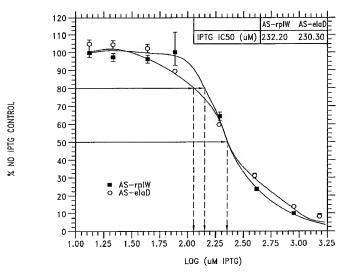
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): WANG, Liangsu [CA/US]; 4204 Calle Isabelino, San Diego, CA 92130

(US). ZAMUDIO, Carlos [US/US]; 8724 Villa La Jolla, #88, La Jolla, CA 92037 (US). MALONE, Cheryl [US/US]; 8798 Wahl Street, Santee, CA 92071 (US). HASELBECK, Robert [US/US]; 4672 El Cerrito Drive, San Diego, CA 92115 (US). OHLSEN, Kari, L. [US/US]; 3560 Vista De La Orilla, San Diego, CA 92117 (US). ZYSKIND, Judith, W. [US/US]; 8415 La Jolla Scenic Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037 (US). WALL, Daniel [US/US]; 3734 Brookshire Street, San Diego, CA 92111 (US). TRAWICK, John, D. [US/US]; 7975 Michelle Drive, La Mesa, CA 91942 (US). CARR, Grant, J. [US/US]; 2210 Sonrisa Glen, Escondido, CA 92029 (US). YAMAMOTO, Robert [US/US]; 3725 Notre Dame Avenue, San Diego, CA 92122 (US). FORSYTH, R., Allyn [US/US]; 1135 Beryl Street, San Diego, CA 92109 (US). XU, H., Howard [US/US]; 14695 Penasquitos Drive, San Diego, CA 92129 (US).

- (74) Agent: HUNT, Dale, C.; KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP, 16th Floor, 620 Newport Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AT (utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IDENTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL GENES IN MICROORGANISMS



(57) Abstract: The sequences of antisense nucleic acids which inhibit the proliferation of prokaryotes are disclosed. Cell-based assays which employ the antisense nucleic acids to identify and develop antibiotics are also disclosed. The antisense nucleic acids can also be used to identify proteins required for proliferation, express these proteins or portions thereof, obtain antibodies capable of specifically binding to the expressed proteins, and to use those expressed proteins as a screen to isolate candidate molecules for rational drug discovery programs. The nucleic acids can also be used to screen for homologous nucleic acids that are required for proliferation in cells other than Staphylococcus aureus, Salmonella typhimurium, Klebsiella pneumoniae, and Pseudomonas aeruginosa. The nucleic acids of the present invention can also be used in various assay systems to screen for proliferation required genes in other organisms.



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CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, CZ (utility model), DE, DE (utility model), DK, DK (utility model), DM, DZ, EC, EE, EE (utility model), ES, FI, FI (utility model), GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent

(BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report
- with sequence listing part of description published separately in electronic form and available upon request from the International Bureau

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

IDENTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL GENES IN MICROORGANISMS

Sequence Listing

The present application is being filed along with quadruplicate copies of a CD-ROM marked "Copy 1 - SEQUENCE LISTING PART," "Copy 2 - SEQUENCE LISTING PART," "Copy 3 - SEQUENCE LISTING PART," and "CRF" containing a Sequence Listing in electronic format. The quadruplicate copies of the CD-ROM each contain a file entitled 034VPC final.ST25.txt, created on March 15, 2002, which is 181,323,311 bytes in size.

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Background of the Invention

Since the discovery of penicillin, the use of antibiotics to treat the ravages of bacterial infections has saved millions of lives. With the advent of these "miracle drugs," for a time it was popularly believed that humanity might, once and for all, be saved from the scourge of bacterial infections. In fact, during the 1980s and early 1990s, many large pharmaceutical companies cut back or eliminated antibiotics research and development. They believed that infectious disease caused by bacteria finally had been conquered and that markets for new drugs were limited. Unfortunately, this belief was overly optimistic.

The tide is beginning to turn in favor of the bacteria as reports of drug resistant bacteria become more frequent. The United States Centers for Disease Control announced that one of the most powerful known antibiotics, vancomycin, was unable to treat an infection of the common Staphylococcus aureus (staph). This organism is commonly found in our environment and is responsible for many nosocomial infections. The import of this announcement becomes clear when one considers that vancomycin was used for years to treat infections caused by Staphylococcus species as well as other stubborn strains of bacteria. In short, bacteria are becoming resistant to our most powerful antibiotics. If this trend continues, it is conceivable that we will return to a time when what are presently considered minor bacterial infections are fatal diseases.

Over-prescription and improper prescription habits by some physicians have caused an indiscriminate increase in the availability of antibiotics to the public. The patients are also partly responsible, since they will often improperly use the drug, thereby generating yet another population of bacteria that is resistant, in whole or in part, to traditional antibiotics.

The bacterial pathogens that have haunted humanity remain, in spite of the development of modern scientific practices to deal with the diseases that they cause. Drug resistant bacteria are now an increasing threat to the health of humanity. A new generation of antibiotics is needed to once again deal with the pending health threat that bacteria present.

Discovery of New Antibiotics

As more and more bacterial strains become resistant to the panel of available antibiotics, new antibiotics are required to treat infections. In the past, practitioners of pharmacology would have to rely upon traditional methods of drug discovery to generate novel, safe and efficacious compounds for the treatment of disease. Traditional drug discovery methods involve blindly testing potential drug candidate-molecules, often selected at random, in the hope that one might prove to be

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an effective treatment for some disease. The process is painstaking and laborious, with no guarantee of success. Today, the average cost to discover and develop a new drug exceeds US \$500 million, an "d the average time from laboratory to patient is 15 years. Improving this process, even incrementally, would represent a huge advance in the generation of novel antimicrobial agents.

Newly emerging practices in drug discovery utilize a number of biochemical techniques to provide for directed approaches to creating new drugs, rather than discovering them at random. For example, gene sequences and proteins encoded thereby that are required for the proliferation of a cell or microorganism make excellent targets since exposure of bacteria to compounds active against these targets would result in the inactivation of the cell or microorganism. Once a target is identified, biochemical analysis of that target can be used to discover or to design molecules that interact with and alter the functions of the target. Use of physical and computational techniques to analyze structural and biochemical properties of targets in order to derive compounds that interact with such targets is called rational drug design and offers great potential. Thus, emerging drug discovery practices use molecular modeling techniques, combinatorial chemistry approaches, and other means to produce and screen and/or design large numbers of candidate compounds.

Nevertheless, while this approach to drug discovery is clearly the way of the future, problems remain. For example, the initial step of identifying molecular targets for investigation can be an extremely time consuming task. It may also be difficult to design molecules that interact with the target by using computer modeling techniques. Furthermore, in cases where the function of the target is not known or is poorly understood, it may be difficult to design assays to detect molecules that interact with and alter the functions of the target. To improve the rate of novel drug discovery and development, methods of identifying important molecular targets in pathogenic cells or microorganisms and methods for identifying molecules that interact with and alter the functions of such molecular targets are urgently required.

Escherichia coli represents an excellent model system to understand bacterial biochemistry and physiology. The estimated 4288 genes scattered along the 4.6 x 10⁶ base pairs of the Escherichia coli (E. coli) chromosome offer tremendous promise for the understanding of bacterial biochemical processes. In turn, this knowledge will assist in the development of new tools for the diagnosis and treatment of bacteria-caused human disease. The entire E. coli genome has been sequenced, and this body of information holds a tremendous potential for application to the discovery and development of new antibiotic compounds. Yet, in spite of this accomplishment, the general functions or roles of many of these genes are still unknown. For example, the total number of proliferation-required genes contained within the E. coli genome is unknown, but has been variously estimated at around 200 to 700 (Armstrong, K.A. and Fan, D.P. Essential Genes in the metB-malB Region of Escherichia coli K12, 1975, J. Bacteriol. 126: 48-55).

Staphylococcus aureus is a Gram positive microorganism which is the causative agent of many infectious diseases. Local infection by Staphylococcus aureus can cause abscesses on skin and cellulitis in subcutaneous tissues and can lead to toxin-related diseases such as toxic shock and

scalded skin syndromes. Staphylococcus aureus can cause serious systemic infections such as osteomyelitis, endocarditis, pneumonia, and septicemia. Staphylococcus aureus is also a common cause of food poisoning, often arising from contact between prepared food and infected food industry workers. Antibiotic resistant strains of Staphylococcus aureus have recently been identified, including those that are now resistant to all available antibiotics, thereby severely limiting the options of care available to physicians.

Pseudomonas aeruginosa is an important Gram negative opportunistic pathogen. It is the most common Gram negative found in nosocomial infections. P. aeruginosa is responsible for 16% of nosocomial pneumonia cases, 12% of hospital-acquired urinary tract infections, 8% of surgical wound infections, and 10% of bloodstream infections. Immunocompromised patients, such as neutropenic cancer and bone marrow transplant patients, are particular susceptible to opportunistic infections. In this group of patients, P. aeruginosa is responsible for pneumonia and septicemia with attributable deaths reaching 30%. P. aeruginosa is also one of the most common and lethal pathogens responsible for ventilator-associated pneumonia in intubated patients, with directly attributable death rates reaching 38%. Although P. aeruginosa outbreaks in burn patients are rare, it is associated with 60% death rates. In the AIDS population, P. aeruginosa is associated with 50% of deaths. Cystic fibrosis patients are characteristically susceptible to chronic infection by P. aeruginosa, which is responsible for high rates of illness and death. Current antibiotics work poorly for CF infections (Van Delden & Igelwski. 1998. Emerging Infectious Diseases 4:551-560; references therein).

The gram negative enteric bacterial genus, Salmonella, encompasses at least 2 species. One of these, S. enterica, is divided into multiple subspecies and thousands of serotypes or serovars (Brenner, et al. 2000 J. Clin. Microbiol. 38:2465-2467). The S. enterica human pathogens include serovars Typhi, Paratyphi, Typhimurium, Cholerasuis, and many others deemed so closely related that they are variants of a widespread species. Worldwide, disease in humans caused by Salmonella is a very serious problem. In many developing countries, S. enterica ser. Typhi still causes oftenfatal typhoid fever. This problem has been reduced or eliminated in wealthy industrial states. However, enteritis induced by Salmonella is widespread and is the second most common disease caused by contaminated food in the United States (Edwards, BH 1999 "Salmonella and Shigella species" Clin. Lab Med. 19(3):469-487). Though usually self-limiting in healthy individuals, others such as children, seniors, and those with compromising illnesses can be at much greater risk of serious illness and death.

Some *S. enterica* serovars (e.g. Typhimurium) cause a localized infection in the gastrointestinal tract. Other serovars (i.e. Typhi and Paratyphi) cause a much more serious systemic infection. In animal models, these roles can be reversed which has allowed the use of the relatively safe *S. enterica* ser. Typhimurium as a surrogate in mice for the typhoid fever agent, *S. enterica* ser. Typhi. In mice, *S. enterica* ser Typhimurium causes a systemic infection similar in outcome to typhoid fever. Years of study of the *Salmonella* have led to the identification of many determinants

of virulence in animals and humans. Salmonella is interesting in its ability to localize to and invade the intestinal epithelium, induce morphologic changes in target cells via injection of certain cell-remodeling proteins, and to reside intracellularly in membrane-bound vesicles (Wallis, TS and Galyov, EE 2000 "Molecular basis of Salmonella-induced enteritis." Molec. Microb. 36:997-1005; Falkow, S "The evolution of pathogenicity in Escherichia, Shigella, and Salmonella," Chap. 149 in Neidhardt, et al. eds pp 2723-2729; Gulig, PA "Pathogenesis of Systemic Disease," Chap. 152 in Neidhardt, et al. ppp 2774-2787). The immediate infection often results in a severe watery diarrhea but Salmonella also can establish and maintain a subclinical carrier state in some individuals. Spread is via food contaminated with sewage.

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The gene products implicated in *Salmonella* pathogenesis include type three secretion systems (TTSS), proteins affecting cytoplasmic structure of the target cells, many proteins carrying out functions necessary for survival and proliferation of *Salmonella* in the host, as well as "traditional" factors such as endotoxin and secreted exotoxins. Additionally, there must be factors mediating species-specific illnesses. Despite this most of the genomes of *S. enterica* ser. Typhi (see http://www.sanger.ac.uk/Projects/S_typhi/ for the genome database) and *S. enterica* ser. Typhimurium (see http://genome.wustl.edu/gsc/bacterial/salmonella.shtml for the genome database) are highly conserved and are mutually useful for gene identification in multiple serovars. The Salmonella are a complex group of enteric bacteria causing disease similar to but distinct from other gram negative enterics such as *E. coli* and have been a focus of biomedical research for the last century.

Enterococcis faecalis, a Gram positive bacterium, is by far the most common member of the enterococci to cause infections in humans. Enterococcus faecium generally accounts for less than 20% of clinical isolates. Enterococci infections are mostly hospital-acquired though they are also associated with some community-acquired infections. Of nosocomial infections enterococci account for 12% of bacteremia, 15% of surgical wound infections, 14% of urinary tract infections, and 5 to 15% of endocarditis cases (Huycke, M. M., D. F., Sahm and M. S. Gilmore. 1998. Emerging Infectious Diseases 4:239-249). Additionally enterococci are frequently associated with intraabdominal and pelvic infections. Enterococci infections are often hard to treat because they are resistant to a vast array of antimicrobial drugs, including aminoglycosides, penicillin, ampicillin and vancomycin. The development of multiple-drug resistant (MDR) enterococci has made this bacteria a major concern for treating nosocomial infections.

Current drug discovery methods involve screening large number of prospective therapeutic compounds to identify those that are effective therapeutic agents or that can be optimized to provide an effective therapeutic agents. For example, the compounds to be evaluated for therapeutic activity may be members of a library of compounds generated by combinatorial chemistry or members of a library of natural products.

Unfortunately, current methods are laborious and time consuming and may yield compounds which have already been identified or which act on gene products which are already

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targeted by an existing therapeutic agent. In addition, a large number of compounds have been identified which have antimicrobial activity but which cannot be administered to individuals suffering from infection due to the fact that their targets are unknown.

The above reasons underscore the urgency of developing new antibiotics that are effective against *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Salmonella typhimurium*. Accordingly, there is an urgent need for more novel methods to identify and characterize bacterial genomic sequences that encode gene products involved in proliferation, and are thereby potential new targets for antibiotic development. Likewise, there is a need for rapid screening techniques which yield novel compounds or compounds which act on novel targets as well as a need for methods which permit the identification of the target on which a compound with antimicrobial activity acts.

Prior to the present invention, the discovery of Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, and Salmonella typhimurium genes required for proliferation of the microorganism was a painstaking and slow process. Rapid screening techniques for identifying novel targets on which novel compounds act were undeveloped. While the detection and identification of new cellular drug targets within a Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, and Salmonella typhimurium cell is key for novel antibiotic development and effective treatment, the current methods of drug target discovery available prior to this invention have required painstaking processes requiring years of effort.

Summary of the Invention

Some aspects of the present invention are described in the numbered paragraphs below.

- 1. A purified or isolated nucleic acid sequence comprising a nucleotide sequence consisting essentially of one of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, wherein expression of said nucleic acid inhibits proliferation of a cell.
- 2. The nucleic acid sequence of Paragraph 1, wherein said nucleotide sequence is complementary to at least a portion of a coding sequence of a gene whose expression is required for proliferation of a cell.
- 3. The nucleic acid of Paragraph 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is complementary to at least a portion of a nucleotide sequence of an RNA required for proliferation of a cell.
- 4. The nucleic acid of Paragraph 3, wherein said RNA is an RNA comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding more than one gene product.
- 5. A purified or isolated nucleic acid comprising a fragment of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, said fragment selected from the group consisting of fragments comprising at least 10, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 50 and more than 50 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213.

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The fragment of Paragraph 5, wherein said fragment is included in a nucleic acid 6. obtained from an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, pneumoniae, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, 20 Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- The fragment of Paragraph 5, wherein said fragment is included in a nucleic acid obtained from an organism other than Escherichia coli.
- A vector comprising a promoter operably linked to the nucleic acid of any one of 8. Paragraphs 1-7.
- The vector of Paragraph 8, wherein said promoter is active in a microorganism 9. selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis,

Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

10. A host cell containing the vector of Paragraph 8 or Paragraph 9.

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- 11. A purified or isolated antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to at least a portion of an intragenic sequence, intergenic sequence, sequences spanning at least a portion of two or more genes, 5' noncoding region, or 3' noncoding region within an operon comprising a proliferation-required gene whose activity or expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213.
- The purified or isolated antisense nucleic acid of Paragraph 11, wherein said 12. antisense nucleic acid is complementary to a nucleic acid from an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria avium, Mycobacterium bovis, monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma

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urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 13. The purified or isolated antisense nucleic acid of Paragraph 11, wherein said nucleotide sequence is complementary to a nucleotide sequence of a nucleic acid from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 14. The purified or isolated antisense nucleic acid of Paragraph 11, wherein said proliferation-required gene comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.
- 15. A purified or isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence having at least 70% identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, fragments comprising at least 25 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, the nucleotide sequences complementary to SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 and the sequences complementary to fragments comprising at least 25 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters.
- The purified or isolated nucleic acid of Paragraph 15, wherein said nucleic acid is 16. obtained from an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella pneumoniae, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas svringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum. Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 17. The nucleic acid of Paragraph 15, wherein said nucleic acid is obtained from an organism other than *E. coli*.

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18. A vector comprising a promoter operably linked to a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213.

- The vector of Paragraph 18, wherein said nucleic acid encoding said polypeptide is 19. obtained from an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, pneumoniae, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 20. The vector of Paragraph 18, wherein said nucleotide sequence encoding said polypeptide is obtained from an organism other than *E. coli*.
 - 21. A host cell containing the vector of Paragraph 18.
- 22. The vector of Paragraph 18, wherein said polypeptide comprises a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42398-78581.
 - 23. The vector of Paragraph 18, wherein said promoter is operably linked to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.
- 24. A purified or isolated polypeptide comprising a polypeptide whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, or a fragment selected from the group consisting of fragments comprising at least 5,

at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, at least 60 or more than 60 consecutive amino acids of one of the said polypeptides.

25. The polypeptide of Paragraph 24, wherein said polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581 or a fragment comprising at least 5, at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, at least 60 or more than 60 consecutive amino acids of a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 42398-78581.

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- The polypeptide of Paragraph 24, wherein said polypeptide is obtained from an 26. organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
- 27. The polypeptide of Paragraph 24, wherein said polypeptide is obtained from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- A purified or isolated polypeptide comprising a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity to a polypeptide whose expression is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, or at least 25% amino acid identity to a fragment comprising at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, at least 60 or more than 60 consecutive amino acids of a polypeptide whose expression is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters.

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29. The polypeptide of Paragraph 28, wherein said polypeptide has at least 25% identity to a polypeptide comprising one of SEQ ID NOs: 42398-78581 or at least 25% identity to a fragment comprising at least 5, at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, at least 60 or more than 60 consecutive amino acids of a polypeptide comprising one of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581 as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters.

- The polypeptide of Paragraph 28, wherein said polypeptide is obtained from an 30. organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, typhimurium, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
- 31. The polypeptide of Paragraph 28, wherein said polypeptide is obtained from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 32. An antibody capable of specifically binding the polypeptide of one of Paragraphs 28-31.
 - 33. A method of producing a polypeptide, comprising introducing a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 into a cell.
 - 34. The method of Paragraph 33, further comprising the step of isolating said polypeptide.

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35. The method of Paragraph 33, wherein said polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.

- The method of Paragraph 33, wherein said nucleic acid encoding said polypeptide 36. is obtained from an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella Moraxella catarrhalis, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, pneumoniae, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
- 37. The method of Paragraph 33, wherein said nucleic acid encoding said polypeptide is obtained from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 38. The method of Paragraph 33, wherein said promoter is operably linked to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.
- 39. A method of inhibiting proliferation of a cell in an individual comprising inhibiting the activity or reducing the amount of a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or inhibiting the activity or reducing the amount of a nucleic acid encoding said gene product.
- 40. The method of Paragraph 39, wherein said method comprises inhibiting said activity or reducing said amount of a gene product in an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia,

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Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, pneumophila, Legionella Listeria Klebsiella pneumoniae, capsulatum, Histoplasma bovis. Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium Moraxella catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 41. The method of Paragraph 39, wherein said method comprises inhibiting said activity or reducing said amount of a gene product in an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 42. The method of Paragraph 39, wherein said gene product is present in an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 43. The method of Paragraph 39, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- 44. A method for identifying a compound which influences the activity of a gene product required for proliferation, said gene product comprising a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, said method comprising:

contacting said gene product with a candidate compound; and determining whether said compound influences the activity of said gene product.

45. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is from an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis,

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Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 46. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 47. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide and said activity is an enzymatic activity.
- 48. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide and said activity is a carbon compound catabolism activity.
- 49. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide and said activity is a biosynthetic activity.
- 50. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide and said activity is a transporter activity.
 - 51. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide and said activity is a transcriptional activity.
 - 52. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide and said activity is a DNA replication activity.
- The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide and said activity is a cell division activity.
 - 54. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is an RNA.
 - 55. The method of Paragraph 44, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
 - 56. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 44.
 - 57. A method for identifying a compound or nucleic acid having the ability to reduce the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation, said gene product comprising a

gene product whose activity or expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, said method comprising:

- (a) contacting a target gene or RNA encoding said gene product with a candidate compound or nucleic acid; and
 - (b) measuring an activity of said target.

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- The method of Paragraph 57, wherein said target gene or RNA is from an organism 58. selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, 10 Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter 15 cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella 20 haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus 25 pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 59. The method of Paragraph 57, wherein said target gene or RNA is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
 - 60. The method of Paragraph 57, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
 - 61. The method of Paragraph 57, wherein said target is a messenger RNA molecule and said activity is translation of said messenger RNA.
 - 62. The method of Paragraph 57, wherein said target is a messenger RNA molecule and said activity is transcription of a gene encoding said messenger RNA.
 - 63. The method of Paragraph 57, wherein said target is a gene and said activity is transcription of said gene.

64. The method of Paragraph 57, wherein said target is a nontranslated RNA and said activity is processing or folding of said nontranslated RNA or assembly of said nontranslated RNA into a protein/RNA complex.

65. The method of Paragraph 57, wherein said target is a messenger RNA molecule encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 42398-78581.

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- 66. The method of Paragraph 57, wherein said target comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.
 - 67. A compound or nucleic acid identified using the method of Paragraph 57.
- 68. A method for identifying a compound which reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of a cell, wherein the activity or expression of said gene product is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, said method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing a sublethal level of an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding said gene product in a cell to reduce the activity or amount of said gene product in said cell, thereby producing a sensitized cell;
 - (b) contacting said sensitized cell with a compound; and
 - (c) determining the degree to which said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized cell relative to a cell which does not contain said antisense nucleic acid.
- 69. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits the growth of said sensitized cell to a greater extent than said compound inhibits the growth of a nonsensitized cell.
 - 70. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said cell is a Gram positive bacterium.
- 71. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said Gram positive bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus* species, *Streptococcus* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Mycobacterium* species, *Clostridium* species, and *Bacillus* species.
 - 72. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said bacterium is *Staphylococcus aureus*.
- 73. The method of Paragraph 72, wherein said *Staphylococcus* species is coagulase negative.
 - 74. The method of Paragraph 72, wherein said bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus aureus* RN450 and *Staphylococcus aureus* RN4220.
- 75. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said cell is an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis),

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trachomatis, Clostridium Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia Candida dubliniensis, difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Clostridium Clostridium botulinum, acetobutylicum, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 76. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said cell is not an *E. coli* cell.
- 77. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 78. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is transcribed from an inducible promoter.
 - 79. The method of Paragraph 68, further comprising the step of contacting said cell with a concentration of inducer which induces transcription of said antisense nucleic acid to a sublethal level.
- 25 80. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein growth inhibition is measured by monitoring optical density of a culture growth solution.
 - 81. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide.
 - 82. The method of Paragraph 81, wherein said polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
 - 83. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein said gene product is an RNA.
 - 84. The method of Paragraph 68, wherein nucleic acid encoding said gene product comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.
 - 85. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 68.
 - 86. A method for inhibiting cellular proliferation comprising introducing an effective amount of a compound with activity against a gene whose activity or expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or a compound with activity against the product of said gene into a population of cells expressing said gene.

87. The method of Paragraph 86, wherein said compound is an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, or a proliferation-inhibiting portion thereof.

88. The method of Paragraph 86, wherein said proliferation inhibiting portion of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is a fragment comprising at least 10, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 50 or more than 51 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213.

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- 89. The method of Paragraph 86, wherein said population is a population of Gram positive bacteria.
- 90. The method of Paragraph 89, wherein said population of Gram positive bacteria is selected from the group consisting of a population of *Staphylococcus* species, *Streptococcus* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Mycobacterium* species, *Clostridium* species, and *Bacillus* species.
- 91. The method of Paragraph 86, wherein said population is a population of Staphylococcus aureus.
- 92. The method of Paragraph 91, wherein said population is a population of a bacterium selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus aureus* RN450 and *Staphylococcus aureus* RN4220.
- The method of Paragraph 86, wherein said population is a population of a 93. bacterium selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter 20 jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter 25 cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella 30 haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, typhimurium, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus 35 pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

94. The method of Paragraph 86, wherein said population is a population of an organism other than *E. coli*.

- 95. The method of Paragraph 86, wherein said product of said gene is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 96. The method of Paragraph 86, wherein said gene encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.

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- 97. The method of Paragraph 86, wherein said gene comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.
- 98. A composition comprising an effective concentration of an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, or a proliferation-inhibiting portion thereof in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 99. The composition of Paragraph 98, wherein said proliferation-inhibiting portion of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 comprises at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 50 or more than 50 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213.
- 100. A method for inhibiting the activity or expression of a gene in an operon required for proliferation wherein the activity or expression of at least one gene in said operon is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, said method comprising contacting a cell in a cell population with an antisense nucleic acid complementary to at least a portion of said operon.
- 101. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said antisense nucleic acid comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or a proliferation-inhibiting portion thereof.
- The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is selected from the group 102. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori,

Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

103. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is not an E. coli cell.

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- 104. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said gene is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 105. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a plasmid which expresses said antisense nucleic acid into said cell population.
 - 106. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a phage which encodes said antisense nucleic acid into said cell population.
 - 107. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by expressing said antisense nucleic acid from the chromosome of cells in said cell population.
 - 108. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a promoter adjacent to a chromosomal copy of said antisense nucleic acid such that said promoter directs the transcription of said antisense nucleic acid.
 - 109. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a retron which expresses said antisense nucleic acid into said cell population.
- 110. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a ribozyme into said cell-population, wherein a binding portion of said ribozyme comprises said antisense nucleic acid.
- 111. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a liposome comprising said antisense nucleic acid into said cell.
- 112. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by electroporation of said antisense nucleic acid into said cell.
 - 113. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is a fragment comprising at least 10, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 50 or more than 50 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213.
 - 114. The method of Paragraph 100 wherein said antisense nucleic acid is a synthetic oligonucleotide.
 - 115. The method of Paragraph 100, wherein said gene comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.

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116. A method for identifying a gene which is required for proliferation of a cell comprising:

- (a) contacting a cell with an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, wherein said cell is a cell other than the organism from which said nucleic acid was obtained;
 - (b) determining whether said nucleic acid inhibits proliferation of said cell; and
- (c) identifying the gene in said cell which encodes the mRNA which is complementary to said antisense nucleic acid or a portion thereof.
- 117. The method of Paragraph 116, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus* species, *Streptococcus* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Mycobacterium* species, *Clostridium* species, and *Bacillus* species.
 - The method of Paragraph 116 wherein said cell is selected from the group 118. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Mycobacterium monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 119. The method of Paragraph 116, wherein said cell is not *E. coli*.
- 120. The method of Paragraph 116, further comprising operably linking said antisense nucleic acid to a promoter which is functional in said cell, said promoter being included in a vector, and introducing said vector into said cell.

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121. A method for identifying a compound having the ability to inhibit proliferation of a cell comprising:

- (a) identifying a homolog of a gene or gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 in a test cell, wherein said test cell is not the cell from which said nucleic acid was obtained;
- (b) identifying an inhibitory nucleic acid sequence which inhibits the activity of said homolog in said test cell;
- (c) contacting said test cell with a sublethal level of said inhibitory nucleic acid, thus sensitizing said cell;
 - (d) contacting the sensitized cell of step (c) with a compound; and
- (e) determining the degree to which said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized cell relative to a cell which does not contain said inhibitory nucleic acid.
- 122. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized test cell to a greater extent than said compound inhibits proliferation of a nonsensitized test cell.
- 123. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein step (a) comprises identifying a nucleic acid homologous to a gene or gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 or a nucleic acid encoding a homologous polypeptide to a polypeptide whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 by using an algorithm selected from the group consisting of BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters and FASTA version 3.0t78 algorithm with the default parameters to identify said homologous nucleic acid or said nucleic acid encoding a homologous polypeptide in a database.
- 124. The method of Paragraph 121 wherein said step (a) comprises identifying a homologous nucleic acid or a nucleic acid comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding a homologous polypeptide by identifying nucleic acids which hybridize to said nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 or the complement of said nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213.
- 125. The method of Paragraph 121 wherein step (a) comprises expressing a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs. 1-6213 in said test cell.
- 126. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein step (a) comprises identifying a homologous nucleic acid or a nucleic acid encoding a homologous polypeptide in a test cell selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida

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pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 127. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein step (a) comprises identifying a homologous nucleic acid or a nucleic acid encoding a homologous polypeptide in a test cell other than *E. coli*.
- 20 . 128. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein said inhibitory nucleic acid is an antisense nucleic acid.
 - 129. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein said inhibitory nucleic acid comprises an antisense nucleic acid to a portion of said homolog.
 - 130. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein said inhibitory nucleic acid comprises an antisense nucleic acid to a portion of the operon encoding said homolog.
 - 131. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein the step of contacting the cell with a sublethal level of said inhibitory nucleic acid comprises directly contacting the surface of said cell with said inhibitory nucleic acid.
 - 132. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein the step of contacting the cell with a sublethal level of said inhibitory nucleic acid comprises transcribing an antisense nucleic acid complementary to at least a portion of the RNA transcribed from said homolog in said cell.
 - 133. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- 35 134. The method of Paragraph 121, wherein said gene comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.
 - 135. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 121.

136. A method of identifying a compound having the ability to inhibit proliferation comprising:

- (a) contacting a test cell with a sublethal level of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 or a portion thereof which inhibits the proliferation of the cell from which said nucleic acid was obtained, thus sensitizing said test cell;
 - (b) contacting the sensitized test cell of step (a) with a compound; and
- (c) determining the degree to which said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized test cell relative to a cell which does not contain said nucleic acid.
- 137. The method of Paragraph 136, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized test cell to a greater extent than said compound inhibits proliferation of a nonsensitized test cell.
 - 138. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 136.

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- The method of Paragraph 136, wherein said test cell is selected from the group 139. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis. Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Listeria capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Histoplasma Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 140. The method of Paragraph 136, wherein the test cell is not *E. coli*.
 - 141. A method for identifying a compound having activity against a biological pathway required for proliferation comprising:

(a) sensitizing a cell by providing a sublethal level of an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product required for proliferation, wherein the activity or expression of said gene product is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, in said cell to reduce the activity or amount of said gene product;

(b) contacting the sensitized cell with a compound; and

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- (c) determining the degree to which said compound inhibits the growth of said sensitized cell relative to a cell which does not contain said antisense nucleic acid.
- 142. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits the growth of said sensitized cell to a greater extent than said compound inhibits the growth of a nonsensitized cell.
- 143. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of bacterial cells, fungal cells, plant cells, and animal cells.
 - 144. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein said cell is a Gram positive bacterium.
- 145. The method of Paragraph 144, wherein said Gram positive bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus* species, *Streptococcus* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Mycobacterium* species, *Clostridium* species, and *Bacillus* species.
 - 146. The method of Paragraph 145, wherein said Gram positive bacterium is Staphylococcus aureus.
- 147. The method of Paragraph 146, wherein said Gram positive bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus aureus* RN450 and *Staphylococcus aureus* RN4220.
 - 148. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella capsulatum, pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella

typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

149. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein said cell is not an E. coli cell.

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- 150. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 151. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is transcribed from an inducible promoter.
 - 152. The method of Paragraph 141, further comprising contacting the cell with an agent which induces transcription of said antisense nucleic acid from said inducible promoter, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is transcribed at a sublethal level.
 - 153. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein inhibition of proliferation is measured by monitoring the optical density of a liquid culture.
 - 154. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
 - 155. The method of Paragraph 141, wherein said nucleic acid encoding said gene product comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.
 - 156. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 141.
 - 157. A method for identifying a compound having the ability to inhibit cellular proliferation comprising:
 - (a) contacting a cell with an agent which reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of said cell, wherein said gene product is a gene product whose activity or expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213;
 - (b) contacting said cell with a compound; and
 - (c) determining whether said compound reduces proliferation of said contacted cell by acting on said gene product.
 - 158. The method of Paragraph 157, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound reduces proliferation of said contacted cell to a greater extent than said compound reduces proliferation of cells which have not been contacted with said agent.
 - 159. The method of Paragraph 157, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida

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glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii. Candida krusei. Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Histoplasma capsulatum, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, typhimurium, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 160. The method of Paragraph 157, wherein said cell is not an E. coli cell.
- 20 161. The method of Paragraph 157, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*,
 - 162. The method of Paragraph 157, wherein said agent which reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of said cell comprises an antisense nucleic acid to a gene or operon required for proliferation.
- 25 163. The method of Paragraph 157, wherein said agent which reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of said cell comprises a compound known to inhibit growth or proliferation of a cell.
 - 164. The method of Paragraph 157, wherein said cell contains a mutation which reduces the activity or level of said gene product required for proliferation of said cell.
 - 165. The method of Paragraph 157, wherein said mutation is a temperature sensitive mutation.
 - 166. The method of Paragraph 157, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
 - 167. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 157.
 - 168. A method for identifying the biological pathway in which a proliferation-required gene or its gene product lies, wherein said gene or gene product comprises a gene or gene product

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whose activity or expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, said method comprising:

- (a) providing a sublethal level of an antisense nucleic acid which inhibits the activity of said proliferation-required gene or gene product in a test cell;
- (b) contacting said test cell with a compound known to inhibit growth or proliferation of a cell, wherein the biological pathway on which said compound acts is known; and
- (c) determining the degree to which said proliferation of said test cell is inhibited relative to a cell which was not contacted with said compound.
- 169. The method of Paragraph 168, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said test cell has a substantially greater sensitivity to said compound than a cell which does not express said sublethal level of said antisense nucleic acid.
- 170. The method of Paragraph 168, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- The method of Paragraph 168, wherein said test cell is selected from the group 171. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Histoplasma capsulatum, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 172. The method of Paragraph 168, wherein said test cell is not an *E. coli* cell.

173. The method of Paragraph 168, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.

- 174. A method for determining the biological pathway on which a test compound acts comprising:
 - (a) providing a sublethal level of an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a proliferation-required nucleic acid in a first cell, wherein the activity or expression of said proliferation-required nucleic acid is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 and wherein the biological pathway in which said proliferation-required nucleic acid or a protein encoded by said proliferation-required nucleic acid lies is known,
 - (b) contacting said first cell with said test compound; and
 - (c) determining the degree to which said test compound inhibits proliferation of said first cell relative to a cell which does not contain said antisense nucleic acid.
- 175. The method of Paragraph 174, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said first cell has a substantially greater sensitivity to said test compound than a cell which does not express said sublethal level of said antisense nucleic acid.
 - 176. The method of Paragraph 174, further comprising:

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- (d) providing a sublethal level of a second antisense nucleic acid complementary to a second proliferation-required nucleic acid in a second cell, wherein said second proliferation-required nucleic acid is in a different biological pathway than said proliferation-required nucleic acid in step (a); and
- (e) determining whether said second cell does not have a substantially greater sensitivity to said test compound than a cell which does not express said sublethal level of said second antisense nucleic acid, wherein said test compound is specific for the biological pathway against which the antisense nucleic acid of step (a) acts if said first cell has a substantially greater sensitivity to said test compound than said second cell.
- The method of Paragraph 174, wherein said first cell is selected from the group 177. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium monocytogenes, Moraxella bovis,

Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

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- 178. The method of Paragraph 174, wherein said first cell is not an E. coli cell.
- 179. The method of Paragraph 174, wherein said proliferation-required nucleic acid is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 180. A purified or isolated nucleic acid comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213.
- 181. A compound which interacts with a gene or gene product whose activity or expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 to inhibit proliferation.
- 182. The compound of Paragraph 181, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide comprising one of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
 - 183. The compound of Paragraph 181, wherein said gene comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.
 - . 184. A compound which interacts with a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 to inhibit proliferation.
 - 185. A method for manufacturing an antibiotic comprising the steps of:

screening one or more candidate compounds to identify a compound that reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation, said gene product comprising a gene product whose activity or expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213; and

manufacturing the compound so identified.

- 186. The method of Paragraph 185, wherein said screening step comprises performing any one of the methods of Paragraphs 44, 68, 121, 136, 141, and 157.
- 187. The method of Paragraph 185, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide comprising one of SEQ ID NOs:42398-78581.
 - 188. A method for inhibiting proliferation of a cell in a subject comprising administering an effective amount of a compound that reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of said cell, said gene product comprising a gene product whose activity or expression

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is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 to said subject.

- 189. The method of Paragraph 188 wherein said subject is selected from the group consisting of vertebrates, mammals, avians, and human beings.
- 190. The method of Paragraph 188, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- The method of Paragraph 188, wherein said cell is selected from the group 191. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, 10 Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, 15 Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Moraxella catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma 20 pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, 25 Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 192. The method of Paragraph 188, wherein said cell is not *E. coli*.
 - 193. The method of Paragraph 188, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
 - 194. A purified or isolated nucleic acid consisting essentially of the coding sequence of one of SEQ ID NOs: 6214-42397.
 - 195. A fragment of the nucleic acid of Paragraph 8, said fragment comprising at least 10, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 50 or more than 50 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs: 6214-42397.

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196. A purified or isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, fragments comprising at least 25 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, the nucleotide sequences complementary to SEQ ID NOs.:6214-42397, and the nucleotide sequences complementary to fragments comprising at least 25 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters.

- The nucleic acid of Paragraph 196, wherein said nucleic acid is from an organism 197. selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
- 198. The nucleic acid of Paragraph 196, wherein said nucleic acid is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 199. A method of inhibiting proliferation of a cell comprising inhibiting the activity or reducing the amount of a gene product in said cell or inhibiting the activity or reducing the amount of a nucleic acid encoding said gene product in said cell, wherein said gene product is selected from the group consisting of a gene product having having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at

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least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213.

The method of Paragraph 199, wherein said method comprises inhibiting said 200. activity or reducing said amount of said gene product or inhibiting the activity or reducing the amount of a nucleic acid encoding said gene product in an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Mycobacterium bovis, Moraxella catarrhalis. Mycobacterium avium, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

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201. The method of Paragraph 199, wherein said method comprises inhibiting said activity or reducing said amount of said gene product or inhibiting the activity or reducing the amount of a nucleic acid encoding said gene product in an organism other than *E. coli*.

- 202. The method of Paragraph 199, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 203. The method of Paragraph 199, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42398-78581.
- 204. The method of Paragraph 199, wherein said gene product is encoded by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.
- 205. A method for identifying a compound which influences the activity of a gene product required for proliferation comprising:

contacting a candidate compound with a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented

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by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213; and

determining whether said candidate compound influences the activity of said gene product.

- The method of Paragraph 205, wherein said gene product is from an organism 206. selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 207. The method of Paragraph 205, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
 - 208. The method of Paragraph 205, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42398-78581.
- 209. The method of Paragraph 205, wherein said gene product is encoded by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID

NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.

210. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 205.

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- 211. A method for identifying a compound or nucleic acid having the ability to reduce 5 the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation comprising:
 - (a) providing a target that is a gene or RNA, wherein said target comprises a nucleic acid that encodes a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleic acid identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs: 1-6213;
 - (b) contacting said target with a candidate compound or nucleic acid; and
 - (c) measuring an activity of said target.
 - 212. The method of Paragraph 211, wherein said target gene or RNA is from an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila,

Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

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- 213. The method of Paragraph 211, wherein said target gene or RNA is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 214. The method of Paragraph 211, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 215. The method of Paragraph 211, wherein said target is a messenger RNA molecule and said activity is translation of said messenger RNA.
- 216. The method of Paragraph 211, wherein said compound is a nucleic acid and said activity is translation of said gene product.
- 20 217. The method of Paragraph 211, wherein said target is a gene and said activity is transcription of said gene.
 - 218. The method of Paragraph 211, wherein said target is a nontranslated RNA and said activity is processing or folding of said nontranslated RNA or assembly of said nontranslated RNA into a protein/RNA complex.
- 25 219. The method of Paragraph 211, wherein said target gene is a messenger RNA molecule encoding a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42398-78581.
 - 220. The method of Paragraph 11, wherein said target gene comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.
 - 221. A compound or nucleic acid identified using the method of Paragraph 211.

222. A method for identifying a compound which reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of a cell comprising:

(a) providing a sublethal level of an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid encoding said gene product in a cell to reduce the activity or amount of said gene product in said cell, thereby producing a sensitized cell, wherein said gene product is selected from the group consisting of a gene product having having at least 70% nucleic acid identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213;

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- (b) contacting said sensitized cell with a compound; and
- (c) determining the degree to which said compound inhibits the growth of said sensitized cell relative to a cell which does not contain said antisense nucleic acid.
- 223. The method of Paragraph 222, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits the growth of said sensitized cell to a greater extent than said compound inhibits the growth of a nonsensitized cell.
- 224. The method of Paragraph 222, wherein said sensitized cell is a Gram positive bacterium.
- 225. The method of Paragraph 224, wherein said Gram positive bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus* species, *Streptococcus* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Mycobacterium* species, *Clostridium* species, and *Bacillus* species.
 - 226. The method of Paragraph 225, wherein said bacterium is Staphylococcus aureus.
- 227. The method of Paragraph 224, wherein said *Staphylococcus* species is coagulase negative.

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The method of Paragraph 226, wherein said bacterium is selected from the group 228. consisting of Staphylococcus aureus RN450 and Staphylococcus aureus RN4220.

- The method of Paragraph 222, wherein said sensitized cell is an organism selected 229. from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, 20 tvphimurium. Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 230. The method of Paragraph 222, wherein said cell is an organism other than E. coli.
 - The method of Paragraph 222, wherein said gene product is from an organism other 231. than E. coli.
 - 232. The method of Paragraph 222, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is transcribed from an inducible promoter.
 - The method of Paragraph 222, further comprising the step of contacting said cell with a concentration of inducer which induces transcription of said antisense nucleic acid to a sublethal level.
 - 234. The method of Paragraph 222, wherein growth inhibition is measured by monitoring optical density of a culture medium.
 - The method of Paragraph 222, wherein said gene product is a polypeptide. 235.
 - 236. The method of Paragraph 235, wherein said polypeptide comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of

SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42398-78581.

- 237. The method of Paragraph 222, wherein said gene product is an RNA.
- 238. The method of Paragraph 222, wherein said nucleic acid encoding said gene product comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleic acid identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.
 - 239. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 222.

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- A method for inhibiting cellular proliferation comprising introducing a compound 240. with activity against a gene product or a compound with activity against a gene encoding said gene product into a population of cells expressing said gene product, wherein said gene product is selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited. by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213.
- 241. The method of Paragraph 240, wherein said compound is an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, or a proliferation-inhibiting portion thereof.
- 242. The method of Paragraph 240, wherein said proliferation inhibiting portion of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is a fragment comprising at least 10, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 50 or more than 51 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213.

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243. The method of Paragraph 240, wherein said population is a population of Gram positive bacteria.

- 244. The method of Paragraph 243, wherein said population of Gram positive bacteria is selected from the group consisting of a population of *Staphylococcus* species, *Streptococcus* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Mycobacterium* species, *Clostridium* species, and *Bacillus* species.
- 245. The method of Paragraph 243, wherein said population is a population of Staphylococcus aureus.
- 246. The method of Paragraph 245, wherein said population is a population of a bacterium selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus aureus* RN450 and *Staphylococcus aureus* RN4220.
- 247. The method of Paragraph 240, wherein said population is a population of a bacterium selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
- 248. The method of Paragraph 240, wherein said population is a population of an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 249. The method of Paragraph 240, wherein said product of said gene is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
 - 250. The method of Paragraph 240, wherein said gene product is selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using

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FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42398-78581.

- 251. The method of Paragraph 240, wherein said gene comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.
- 252. A preparation comprising an effective concentration of an antisense nucleic acid in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein said antisense nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a sequence having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or a proliferation-inhibiting portion thereof, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions.
- 253. The preparation of Paragraph 252, wherein said proliferation-inhibiting portion of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 comprises at least 10, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 50 or more than 50 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213.
- 254. A method for inhibiting the activity or expression of a gene in an operon which encodes a gene product required for proliferation comprising contacting a cell in a cell population with an antisense nucleic acid comprising at least a proliferation-inhibiting portion of said operon in an antisense orientation, wherein said gene product is selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the

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group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213.

- 255. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said antisense nucleic acid comprises a nucleotide sequence having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a proliferation inhibiting portion thereof, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid which comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions.
- The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is selected from the group 256. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Histoplasma Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 257. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is not an *E. coli* cell.
 - 258. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said gene is from an organism other than E. coli.

259. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a plasmid which transcribes said antisense nucleic acid into said cell population.

260. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a phage which transcribes said antisense nucleic acid into said cell population.

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- 261. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by transcribing said antisense nucleic acid from the chromosome of cells in said cell population.
- 262. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a promoter adjacent to a chromosomal copy of said antisense nucleic acid such that said promoter directs the synthesis of said antisense nucleic acid.
- 263. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a retron which expresses said antisense nucleic acid into said cell population.
- 264. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a ribozyme into said cell-population, wherein a binding portion of said ribozyme is complementary to said antisense oligonucleotide.
- 265. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by introducing a liposome comprising said antisense oligonucleotide into said cell.
- 266. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said cell is contacted with said antisense nucleic acid by electroporation of said antisense nucleic acid into said cell.
- 267. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said antisense nucleic acid has at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence comprising at least 10, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 50 or more than 50 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213.
- 268. The method of Paragraph 254 wherein said antisense nucleic acid is a synthetic oligonucleotide.
- 269. The method of Paragraph 254, wherein said gene comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.
- 270. A method for identifying a gene which is required for proliferation of a cell comprising:

(a) contacting a cell with an antisense nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or a proliferation-inhibiting portion thereof, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, wherein said cell is a cell other than the organism from which said nucleic acid was obtained;

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- (b) determining whether said nucleic acid inhibits proliferation of said cell; and
- (c) identifying the gene in said cell which encodes the mRNA which is complementary to said antisense nucleic acid or a portion thereof.
- 271. The method of Paragraph 270, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus* species, *Streptococcus* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Mycobacterium* species, *Clostridium* species, and *Bacillus* species.
- The method of Paragraph 270 wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii. Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis. Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis. Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 273. The method of Paragraph 270, wherein said cell is not *E. coli*.

274. The method of Paragraph 270, further comprising operably linking said antisense nucleic acid to a promoter which is functional in said cell, said promoter being included in a vector, and introducing said vector into said cell.

275. A method for identifying a compound having the ability to inhibit proliferation of a cell comprising:

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- (a) identifying a homolog of a gene or gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid in a test cell, wherein said test cell is not the microorgaism from which the antisense nucleic acid was obtained, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions;
- (b) identifying an inhibitory nucleic acid sequence which inhibits the activity of said homolog in said test cell;
- (c) contacting said test cell with a sublethal level of said inhibitory nucleic acid, thus sensitizing said cell;
 - (d) contacting the sensitized cell of step (c) with a compound; and
- (e) determining the degree to which said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized cell relative to a cell which does not express said inhibitory nucleic acid.
- 276. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized test cell to a greater extent than said compound inhibits proliferation of a nonsensitized test cell.
- 277. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein step (a) comprises identifying a homologous nucleic acid to a gene or gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 or a nucleic acid encoding a homologous polypeptide to a polypeptide whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 by using an algorithm selected from the group consisting of BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters and FASTA version 3.0t78 algorithm with the default parameters to identify said homologous nucleic acid or said nucleic acid encoding a homologous polypeptide in a database.
- 278. The method of Paragraph 275 wherein said step (a) comprises identifying a homologous nucleic acid or a nucleic acid encoding a homologous polypeptide by identifying

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nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize to said nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 or the complement of the nucleotide sequence of said nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213.

- 279. The method of Paragraph 275 wherein step (a) comprises expressing a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleic acid identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 in said test cell.
- The method of Paragraph 275, wherein step (a) comprises identifying a 280. 10 homologous nucleic acid or a nucleic acid encoding a homologous polypeptide in an test cell selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida 15 parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, 20 Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella 25 haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus 30 pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 281. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein step (a) comprises identifying a homologous nucleic acid or a nucleic acid encoding a homologous polypeptide in a test cell other than *E. coli*.
 - 282. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein said inhibitory nucleic acid is an antisense nucleic acid.

283. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein said inhibitory nucleic acid comprises an antisense nucleic acid to a portion of said homolog.

- 284. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein said inhibitory nucleic acid comprises an antisense nucleic acid to a portion of the operon encoding said homolog.
- 285. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein the step of contacting the cell with a sublethal level of said inhibitory nucleic acid comprises directly contacting said cell with said inhibitory nucleic acid.
- 286. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein the step of contacting the cell with a sublethal level of said inhibitory nucleic acid comprises expressing an antisense nucleic acid to said homolog in said cell.
- 287. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- 288. The method of Paragraph 275, wherein said gene comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.
 - 289. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 275.
- 290. A method of identifying a compound having the ability to inhibit proliferation comprising:
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- (a) sensitizing a test cell by contacting said test cell with a sublethal level of an antisense nucleic acid, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 or a portion thereof which inhibits the proliferation of the cell from which said nucleic acid was obtained, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditionst;
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- (b) contacting the sensitized test cell of step (a) with a compound; and
- (c) determining the degree to which said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized test cell relative to a cell which does not contain said antisense nucleic acid.

291. The method of Paragraph 290, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized test cell to a greater extent than said compound inhibits proliferation of a nonsensitized test cell.

292. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 290.

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- The method of Paragraph 290, wherein said test cell is selected from the group 293. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria capsulatum, Histoplasma Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Moraxella catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae. Streptococcus mutans. Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 294. The method of Paragraph 290, wherein the test cell is not *E. coli*.
 - 295. A method for identifying a compound having activity against a biological pathway required for proliferation comprising:
 - (a) sensitizing a cell by providing a sublethal level of an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product required for proliferation, wherein said gene product is selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid

comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213;

(b) contacting the sensitized cell with a compound; and

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- (c) determining the extent to which said compound inhibits the growth of said sensitized cell relative to a cell which does not contain said antisense nucleic acid.
- 296. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits the growth of said sensitized cell to a greater extent than said compound inhibits the growth of a nonsensitized cell.
- 297. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of bacterial cells, fungal cells, plant cells, and animal cells.
 - 298. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein said cell is a Gram positive bacterium.
- 299. The method of Paragraph 298, wherein said Gram positive bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus* species, *Streptococcus* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Mycobacterium* species, *Clostridium* species, and *Bacillus* species.
- 300. The method of Paragraph 299, wherein said Gram positive bacterium is Staphylococcus aureus.
 - 301. The method of Paragraph 298, wherein said Gram positive bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Staphylococcus aureus* RN450 and *Staphylococcus aureus* RN4220.
 - 302. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma Legionella capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, pneumophila, Listeria

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monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 303. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein said cell is not an E. coli cell.
- 304. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 305. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is transcribed from an inducible promoter.
- 306. The method of Paragraph 305, further comprising contacting the cell with an agent which induces expression of said antisense nucleic acid from said inducible promoter, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is expressed at a sublethal level.
- 307. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein inhibition of proliferation is measured by monitoring the optical density of a liquid culture.
- 308. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- 309. The method of Paragraph 295, wherein said nucleic acid encoding said gene product comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.
 - 310. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 295.
- 35 311. A method for identifying a compound having the ability to inhibit cellular proliferation comprising:
 - (a) contacting a cell with an agent which reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of said cell, wherein said gene product is selected from

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the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213;

- (b) contacting said cell with a compound; and
- (c) determining the degree to which said compound reduces proliferation of said contacted cell relative to a cell which was not contacted with said agent.
- 312. The method of Paragraph 311, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound reduces proliferation of said contacted cell to a greater extent than said compound reduces proliferation of cells which have not been contacted with said agent.
- The method of Paragraph 311, wherein said cell is selected from the group 313. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis. Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella

haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

314. The method of Paragraph 311, wherein said cell is not an E. coli cell.

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- 315. The method of Paragraph 311, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
 - 316. The method of Paragraph 311, wherein said agent which reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of said cell comprises an antisense nucleic acid to a gene or operon required for proliferation.
 - 317. The method of Paragraph 311, wherein said agent which reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of said cell comprises a compound known to inhibit growth or proliferation of a cell.
 - 318. The method of Paragraph 311, wherein said cell contains a mutation which reduces the activity or level of said gene product required for proliferation of said cell.
 - 319. The method of Paragraph 311, wherein said mutation is a temperature sensitive mutation.
 - 320. The method of Paragraph 311, wherein said gene product comprises a gene product comprises a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
 - 321. A compound identified using the method of Paragraph 311.
 - 322. A method for identifying the biological pathway in which a proliferation-required gene product or a gene encoding a proliferation-required gene product lies comprising:
 - (a) providing a sublethal level of an antisense nucleic acid which inhibits the activity or reduces the level of said gene encoding a proliferation-required gene product or said said proliferation-required gene product in a test cell, wherein said proliferation-required gene product is selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid

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comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213;

- (b) contacting said test cell with a compound known to inhibit growth or proliferation of a cell, wherein the biological pathway on which said compound acts is known; and
- (c) determining the degree to which said compound inhibits proliferation of said test cell relative to a cell which does not contain said antisense nucleic acid.
- 323. The method of Paragraph 322, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said test cell has a substantially greater sensitivity to said compound than a cell which does not express said sublethal level of said antisense nucleic acid.
- 324. The method of Paragraph 322, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- The method of Paragraph 322, wherein said test cell is selected from the group 325. consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris,

Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 326. The method of Paragraph 322, wherein said test cell is not an E. coli cell.
- 327. The method of Paragraph 322, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
 - 328. A method for determining the biological pathway on which a test compound acts comprising:
 - (a) providing a sublethal level of an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a proliferation-required nucleic acid in a cell, thereby producing a sensitized cell, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213 or a proliferation-inhibiting portion thereof, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions and wherein the biological pathway in which said proliferation-required nucleic acid or a protein encoded by said proliferation-required polypeptide lies is known,
 - (b) contacting said cell with said test compound; and

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- (c) determining the degree to which said compound inhibits proliferation of said sensitized cell relative to a cell which does not contain said antisense nucleic acid.
- 329. The method of Paragraph 328, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said sensitized cell has a substantially greater sensitivity to said test compound than a cell which does not express said sublethal level of said antisense nucleic acid.
 - 330. The method of Paragraph 328, further comprising:
 - (d) providing a sublethal level of a second antisense nucleic acid complementary to a second proliferation-required nucleic acid in a second cell, wherein said second proliferation-required nucleic acid is in a different biological pathway than said proliferation-required nucleic acid in step (a); and
 - (e) determining whether said second cell does not have a substantially greater sensitivity to said test compound than a cell which does not express said sublethal level of said second antisense nucleic acid, wherein said test compound is specific for the biological

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pathway against which the antisense nucleic acid of step (a) acts if said sensitized cell has substantially greater sensitivity to said test compound than said second cell.

- 331. The method of Paragraph 328, wherein said sensitized cell is selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis. Clostridium Candida dubliniensis. difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae. Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, 20 Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 332. The method of Paragraph 328, wherein said sensitized cell is not an E. coli cell.
 - 333. The method of Paragraph 328, wherein said proliferation-required nucleic acid is from an organism other than E. coli.
 - A compound which inhibits proliferation by interacting with a gene encoding a gene product required for proliferation or with a gene product required for proliferation, wherein said gene product is selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product

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whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213.

- 335. The compound of Paragraph 334, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- 336. The compound of Paragraph 334, wherein said gene comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.
 - 337. A method for manufacturing an antibiotic comprising the steps of:

screening one or more candidate compounds to identify a compound that reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation wherein said gene product is selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the

gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs: 1-6213; and

manufacturing the compound so identified.

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338. The method of Paragraph 337, wherein said screening step comprises performing any one of the methods of Paragraphs 205, 211, 222, 275, 290, 295, 311.

- 339. The method of Paragraph 337, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- A method for inhibiting proliferation of a cell in a subject comprising administering 340. an effective amount of a compound that reduces the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of said cell, wherein said gene product is selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213.
- 341. The method of Paragraph 340 wherein said subject is selected from the group consisting of vertebrates, mammals, avians, and human beings.
- 342. The method of Paragraph 340, wherein said gene product comprises a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581.
- 343. The method of Paragraph 340, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida

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glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Histoplasma capsulatum, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Moraxella catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, typhimurium, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 344. The method of Paragraph 340, wherein said cell is not *E. coli*.
- 345. The method of Paragraph 340, wherein said gene product is from an organism other than *E. coli*.
- 346. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain in said culture overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture.

347. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain in said culture overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture.

348. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain in said culture overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture.

349. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain in said culture overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide

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sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture.

350. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain in said culture overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture.

351. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain in said culture overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed;

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contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture.

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- 352. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said culture includes at least one strain which does not overexpresses a gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism.
- 353. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said strains which overexpress said gene products comprise a nucleic acid encoding said gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism operably linked to a regulatable promoter.
- 354. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said strains which overexpress said gene products a nucleic acid encoding said gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism operably linked to a constitutive promoter.
- 355. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said identification step comprises determining the nucleotide sequence of a nucleic acid encoding said gene product in said cell which proliferated more rapidly in said culture.
- 356. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said identification step comprises performing an amplification reaction to identify the nucleic acid encoding said gene product in said cell which proliferated more rapidly in said cell culture.

- 357. The method of Paragraph 356, wherein the products of said amplification reaction are labeled with a detectable dye.
- 358. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said identification step comprises performing a hybridization procedure.

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359. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said identification step comprises contacting a nucleic acid array with a nucleic acid encoding said gene product in said cell which proliferated more rapidly in said cell culture.

- 360. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said organism is selected from the group consisting of bacteria, fungi, and protozoa.
- The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said culture is a 361. culture of an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica. Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 362. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said compound is obtained from a library of natural compounds.
- 363. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said compound is obtained from a library of synthetic compounds.
- 364. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, wherein said compound is present in a crude or partially purified state.
- 365. The method of Paragraph 346, 347, 348, 349, 350 or 351, further comprising determining whether said gene product in said strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture has a counterpart in at least one other organism.
- 366. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining an array of strains on a solid growth medium wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed;

contacting said array of strains with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly on said solid medium.

367. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining an array of strains on a solid growth medium wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed;

contacting said array of strains with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly on said solid medium.

368. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining an array of strains on a solid growth medium wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed;

contacting said array of strains with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

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identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly on said solid medium.

369. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining an array of strains on a solid growth medium wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide

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contacting said array of strains with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed;

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identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly on said solid medium.

370. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining an array of strains on a solid growth medium wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid

comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed;

contacting said array of strains with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly on said solid medium.

371. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining an array of strains on a solid growth medium wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed;

contacting said array of strains with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly on said solid medium.

- 372. The method of Paragraph 366, 367, 368, 369, 370 or 371, wherein at least one strain in said array does not overexpresses a gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism.
- 373. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, wherein each culture comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for

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proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain whose proliferation is inhibited by said compound.

374. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, wherein each culture comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain whose proliferation is inhibited by said compound.

375. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, wherein each culture comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain whose proliferation is inhibited by said compound.

376. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, wherein each culture comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene

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product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain whose proliferation is inhibited by said compound.

377. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, wherein each culture comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain whose proliferation is inhibited by said compound.

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378. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, wherein each culture comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain whose proliferation is inhibited by said compound.

- 379. The method of Paragraph 373, 374, 375, 376, 377 or 378, wherein at least one strain in said plurality of cultures does not overexpress a gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism.
 - 380. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising:

 performing the method of Paragraph 346 on a first culture using a first compound;

 performing the method of Paragraph 346 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

381. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising:

performing the method of Paragraph 347 on a first culture using a first compound;

performing the method of Paragraph 347 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

382. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising:

performing the method of Paragraph 348 on a first culture using a first compound;

performing the method of Paragraph 348 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

383. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising:

performing the method of Paragraph 349 on a first culture using a first compound;

performing the method of Paragraph 349 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

384. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising:

performing the method of Paragraph 350 on a first culture using a first compound;

performing the method of Paragraph 350 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

385. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising:

performing the method of Paragraph 351 on a first culture using a first compound;

performing the method of Paragraph 351 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

386. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein each strain in said array overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

387. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein each strain in said array overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

388. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

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growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein each strain in said array overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

389. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein each strain in said array overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

390. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

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growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein each strain in said array overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

391. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein each strain in said array overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

- 392. The method of any one of Paragraphs 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390 or 391, wherein said first compound is present in a crude or partially purified state.
- 393. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is underexpressed;

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contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more slowly in said culture.

394. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more slowly in said culture.

395. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more slowly in said culture.

396. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more slowly in said culture.

397. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid

comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more slowly in said culture.

398. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more slowly in said culture.

- 399. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein at least one strain in said culture does not underexpresses a gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism.
- 400. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said strains which underexpresess said gene products comprise a nucleic acid complementary to at least a portion of a gene encoding said gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism operably linked to a regulatable promoter.
- 401. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said strains which underexpress said gene products express an antisense nucleic acid complementary to at least

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a portion of a gene encoding said gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein expression of said antisense nucleic acid reduces expression of said gene product in said strain.

402. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said identification step comprises determining the nucleotide sequence of a nucleic acid encoding said gene product in said strain which proliferated more slowly.

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- 403. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said identification step comprises performing an amplification reaction to identify the nucleic acid encoding said gene product in said cell which proliferated more slowly.
- 404. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein the products of said amplification reaction are labeled with a detectable dye.
- 405. The method of Paragraph 404, wherein said identification step comprises performing a hybridization procedure.
- 406. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said identification step comprises contacting a nucleic acid array with a nucleic acid encoding said gene product in said cell which proliferated more slowly.
- 407. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said organism is selected from the group consisting of bacteria, fungi, protozoa.
- 408. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said culture is a 20 culture of an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr 25 (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, 30 Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas 35 syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum,

Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica. Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

- 409. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said compound is obtained from a library of natural compounds.
- 410. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said compound is obtained from a library of synthetic compounds.
- 411. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, wherein said compound is present in a crude or partially purified state.
- 412. The method of Paragraph 393, 394, 395, 396, 397 or 398, further comprising determining whether said gene product in said strain which proliferated more slowly in said culture has a counterpart in at least one other organism.
- 413. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, each culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is underexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

414. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, each culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is underexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

415. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, each culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene

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product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is underexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

416. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, each culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is underexpressed;

contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

417. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures, each culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for

proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is underexpressed;

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contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

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A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits 418. proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining a plurality of cultures, each culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs: 42938-78581 is underexpressed;

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contacting each of said cultures with a different concentration of said compound; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

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A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising: 419. performing the method of Paragraph 393 on a first culture using a first compound; performing the method of Paragraph 393 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

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A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising: performing the method of Paragraph 394 on a first culture using a first compound; performing the method of Paragraph 394 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

421. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising:

performing the method of Paragraph 395 on a first culture using a first compound;

performing the method of Paragraph 395 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

422. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising

performing the method of Paragraph 396 on a first culture using a first compound;

performing the method of Paragraph 396 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

423. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising

performing the method of Paragraph 397 on a first culture using a first compound;

performing the method of Paragraph 397 on a second culture using a second compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

424. A method of profiling a compound's activity comprising

performing the method of Paragraph 398 on a first culture using a first compound; performing the method of Paragraph 398 on a second culture using a second

compound; and

comparing the strains identified in said first culture to the strains identified in said second culture.

425. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein said array comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is underexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

426. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

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growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein said array comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is underexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

427. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

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growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein said array comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is underexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

428. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein said array comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group

consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is underexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

429. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

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growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein said array comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is underexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

430. A method of profiling a first compound's activity comprising:

growing an array of strains on a first solid medium comprising said first compound and on a second solid medium comprising a second compound, wherein said array comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of an organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is underexpressed, and wherein said first compound and said second compound inhibit the proliferation of said organism; and

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comparing the pattern of strains which grow on said first solid medium with the pattern of strains which grow on said second solid medium.

431. The method of any one of Paragraphs 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429 or 430, wherein said first compound is present in a crude or partially purified state.

432. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is underexpressed;

contacting each of said plurality of cultures with a varying concentration of a regulatory agent which regulates the level of expression of said gene products which are essential for proliferation of said organism; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

433. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is underexpressed;

contacting each of said plurality of cultures with a varying concentration of a regulatory agent which regulates the level of expression of said gene products which are essential for proliferation of said organism; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

434. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is underexpressed;

contacting each of said plurality of cultures with a varying concentration of a regulatory agent which regulates the level of expression of said gene products which are essential for proliferation of said organism; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

435. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining a plurality of cultures comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:

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1-6213 is underexpressed;

contacting each of said plurality of cultures with a varying concentration of a regulatory agent which regulates the level of expression of said gene products which are essential for proliferation of said organism; and

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identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

436. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining a plurality of cultures comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as

determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is underexpressed;

contacting each of said plurality of cultures with a varying concentration of a regulatory agent which regulates the level of expression of said gene products which are essential for proliferation of said organism; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

437. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a plurality of cultures comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is underexpressed;

contacting each of said plurality of cultures with a varying concentration of a regulatory agent which regulates the level of expression of said gene products which are essential for proliferation of said organism; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain whose rate of proliferation is reduced by said compound.

- 438. A culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed.
- 439. A culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed.
- 440. A culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture

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comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed.

- A culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed.
- 442. A culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed.
- 443. A culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581

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and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed.

- 444. The culture of Paragraph 438, 439, 440, 441, 442 or 443, wherein said strains which overexpresess said gene products comprise a nucleic acid encoding said gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism operably linked to a regulatable promoter.
- 445. The culture of Paragraph 438, 439, 440, 441, 442 or 443, wherein said strains which overexpresses said gene products comprise a nucleic acid encoding said gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism operably linked to a constitutive promoter.
- The culture of Paragraph 438, 439, 440, 441, 442 or 443, wherein said culture is a culture of an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma 10 marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia 15 trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, 20 Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas svringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, 25 Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia 30 enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
 - 447. A culture comprising a a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is underexpressed.
 - 448. A culture comprising a a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture

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comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is underexpressed.

- 449. A culture comprising a a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is underexpressed.
- A culture comprising a a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a 450. different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is underexpressed.
- 451. A culture comprising a a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is underexpressed.
- 452. A culture comprising a a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture

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comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is underexpressed.

- 453. The culture of Paragraph 447, 448, 449, 450, 451 or 452, wherein said strains which underexpress said gene products comprise a nucleic acid encoding said gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism operably linked to a regulatable promoter.
- 454. The culture of Paragraph 447, 448, 449, 450, 451 or 452, wherein said strains which underexpress said gene products comprise a nucleic acid encoding said gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism operably linked to a constitutive promoter.
- The culture of Paragraph 447, 448, 449, 450, 451 or 452, wherein said culture is a 455. culture of an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.
- 456. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the overexpressed genes has been altered so

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as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the overexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

457. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the overexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the overexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

458. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the overexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the overexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed;

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contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

459. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the overexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the overexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

460. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the overexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the overexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed;

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contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

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identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

461. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the overexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the overexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed;

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contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more rapidly than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

- 462. The method of Paragraph 456, 457, 458, 459, 460 or 461, wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the genes encoding an overexpressed gene product has been altered by replacing the native promoters of said genes with promoters which facilitate overexpression of said gene products.
- 463. The method of Paragraph 456, 457, 458, 459, 460 or 461, wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the genes encoding an overexpressed gene product has been altered by inserting a regulatory element into the native promoters of said genes with a promoter which facilitates overexpression of said gene products.
- 464. The method of Paragraph 463, wherein said regulatory element is selected from the group consisting of a regulatable promoter, an operator which is recognized by a repressor, a nucleotide sequence which is recognized by a transcriptional activator, a transcriptional terminator, a nucleotide sequence which introduces a bend in the DNA and an upstream activating sequence.
- 465. The method of Paragraph 456, 457, 458, 459, 460 or 461, wherein the step of identifying the gene product which is overexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene comprises performing an amplification reaction and detecting a unique amplification product corresponding to said gene.
- 466. The method of Paragraph 462, wherein the native promoter of each of the genes encoding a gene product essential for proliferation is replaced with the same promoter.
- 467. The method of Paragraph 462, wherein the native promoters of the genes encoding gene products essential for proliferation are replaced with a plurality of promoters selected to give a desired expression level for each gene product.
- 468. The method of Paragraph 462, wherein said promoters which replaced the native promoters in each strain comprise regulatable promoters.
- 469. The method of Paragraph 462, wherein said promoters which replaced the native promoters in each strain each strain comprise constitutive promoters.
- 470. The method of Paragraph 456, 457, 458, 459, 460 or 461, wherein said organism is selected from the group consisting of bacteria, fungi, and protozoa.
- 471. The method of Paragraph 456, 457, 458, 459, 460 or 461, wherein said culture is a culture of an organism selected from the group consisting of *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Anaplasma marginale*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *Bacillus anthracis*, *Bacteroides fragilis*, *Bordetella pertussis*, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, *Burkholderia cepacia*, *Burkholderia fungorum*, *Burkholderia mallei*,

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Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

472. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the underexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the underexpressed genes and wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress the gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

473. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

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obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the underexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the underexpressed genes and wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress the gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

474. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the underexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the underexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress the gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

475. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the underexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the underexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at

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least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress the gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

476. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the underexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the underexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent

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conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress the gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

477. A method for identifying the gene product on which a compound which inhibits proliferation of an organism acts comprising:

obtaining a culture comprising a plurality of strains wherein each strain underexpresses a different gene product which is essential for proliferation of said organism and wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the underexpressed genes has been altered so as to include a nucleotide sequence which can be used to generate a unique product corresponding to each of the underexpressed genes, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is underexpressed;

contacting said culture with a sufficient concentration of said compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of said organism which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts, such that strains which underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts proliferate more slowly than strains which do not underexpress the gene product on which said compound acts; and

identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene.

- 478. The method of Paragraph 472, 473, 474, 475, 476 or 477, wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the genes encoding an underexpressed gene product has been altered by replacing the native promoters of said genes with promoters which facilitate underexpression of said gene products.
- 479. The method of Paragraph 472, 473, 474, 475, 476 or 477, wherein the nucleotide sequence of each of the genes encoding an underexpressed gene product has been altered by inserting a regulatory element into the native promoters of said genes with a promoter which facilitates underexpression of said gene products.

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480. The method of Paragraph 479, wherein said regulatory element is selected from the group consisting of a regulatable promoter, an operator which is recognized by a repressor, a nucleotide sequence which is recognized by a transcriptional activator, a transcriptional terminator, a nucleotide sequence which introduces a bend in the DNA and an upstream activating sequence.

- 481. The method of Paragraph 472, 473, 474, 475, 476 or 477, wherein the step of identifying the gene product which is underexpressed in a strain which proliferated more slowly in said culture by detecting the unique product corresponding to said gene comprises performing an amplification reaction and detecting a unique amplification product corresponding to said gene.
- 482. The method of Paragraph 478, wherein the native promoter of each of the genes encoding a gene product essential for proliferation is replaced with the same promoter.
- 483. The method of Paragraph 478, wherein the native promoters of the genes encoding gene products essential for proliferation are replaced with a plurality of promoters selected to give a desired expression level for each gene product.
- 484. The method of Paragraph 478, wherein said promoters which replaced the native promoters in each strain comprise regulatable promoters.
- 485. The method of Paragraph 478, wherein said promoters which replaced the native promoters in each strain each strain comprise constitutive promoters.
- 486. The method of Paragraph 472, 473, 474, 475, 476 or 477, wherein said organism is selected from the group consisting of bacteria, fungi, and protozoa.

The method of Paragraph 472, 473, 474, 475, 476 or 477, wherein said culture is a 487. culture of an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus,

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Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis and any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

488. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed;

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction.

489. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed or underexpressed;

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction.

490. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

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obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed;

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performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

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determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction.

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491. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

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obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group

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consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed;

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction.

492. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed or underexpressed;

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction.

493. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed;

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complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are

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determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction.

494. The method of Paragraph 488, 489, 490, 491, 492 or 493, wherein one member of each primer pair for each of said genes is labeled with a detectable dye.

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495.

The method of Paragraph 488, 489, 490, 491, 492 or 493, wherein: said nucleic acid sample is divided into N aliquots; and

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said amplification reaction is performed on each aliquot using primer pairs complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to 1/N of the genes which encode said gene products, wherein one of the members of each primer pair in each aliquot is labeled with a dye and wherein the dyes on the primers in each aliquot are distinguishable from one another.

496. The method of Paragraph 494, further comprising pooling the amplification products from each of the aliquots prior to determining the lengths of the amplification products.

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497. The method of Paragraph 488, 489, 490, 491, 492 or 493, wherein the native promoters of said genes which encode said gene products have been replaced with a regulatable promoter and one of the primers in said primer pairs is complementary to a nucleotide sequence within said regulatable promoter.

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498. The method of Paragraph 496, wherein the native promoters for each of said genes were replaced with the same regulatable promoter.

- 499. The method of Paragraph 496, wherein more than one regulatable promoter was used to replace the promoters of said genes such that some of said genes are under the control of a different regulatable promoter.
- 500. A method for identifying the target of a compound which inhibits the proliferation of an organism comprising:

obtaining a first nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a first culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism and wherein said culture or collection of strains has been contacted with said compound;

obtaining a second nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a second culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises the same strains as said first culture or collection of strains wherein said second culture or collection of strains has not been contacted with said compound;

performing a first amplification reaction on said first nucleic acid sample using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains;

performing a second amplification reaction on said second nucleic acid sample using the same set of primer pairs used in said first amplification reaction;

and comparing the amount of each amplification product in said first amplification reaction, reaction to the amount of that amplification product in said second amplification reaction, wherein an increased level of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products and a decreased level of of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products, wherein said first and second cultures or collection of strains comprise a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

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501. A method for identifying the target of a compound which inhibits the proliferation of an organism comprising:

obtaining a first nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a first culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism and wherein said culture or collection of strains has been contacted with said compound;

obtaining a second nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a second culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises the same strains as said first culture or collection of strains wherein said second culture or collection of strains has not been contacted with said compound;

performing a first amplification reaction on said first nucleic acid sample using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains;

performing a second amplification reaction on said second nucleic acid sample using the same set of primer pairs used in said first amplification reaction;

and comparing the amount of each amplification product in said first amplification reaction to the amount of that amplification product in said second amplification reaction, wherein an increased level of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products and a decreased level of of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products, wherein said first and second cultures or collection of strains comprise a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

502. A method for identifying the target of a compound which inhibits the proliferation of an organism comprising:

obtaining a first nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a first culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which

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is required for proliferation of said organism and wherein said culture or collection of strains has been contacted with said compound;

obtaining a second nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a second culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises the same strains as said first culture or collection of strains wherein said second culture or collection of strains has not been contacted with said compound;

performing a first amplification reaction on said first nucleic acid sample using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains;

performing a second amplification reaction on said second nucleic acid sample using the same set of primer pairs used in said first amplification reaction;

and comparing the amount of each amplification product in said first amplification reaction to the amount of that amplification product in said second amplification reaction, wherein an increased level of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products and a decreased level of of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products, wherein said first and second cultures or collection of strains comprise a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

503. A method for identifying the target of a compound which inhibits the proliferation of an organism comprising:

obtaining a first nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a first culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism and wherein said culture or collection of strains has been contacted with said compound;

obtaining a second nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a second culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises the same strains as said first culture or collection of strains wherein said second culture or collection of strains has not been contacted with said compound;

performing a first amplification reaction on said first nucleic acid sample using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains;

performing a second amplification reaction on said second nucleic acid sample using the same set of primer pairs used in said first amplification reaction;

and comparing the amount of each amplification product in said first amplification

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reaction to the amount of that amplification product in said second amplification reaction, wherein an increased level of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products and a decreased level of of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products, wherein said first and second cultures or collection of strains comprise a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

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504. A method for identifying the target of a compound which inhibits the proliferation of an organism comprising:

obtaining a first nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a first culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism and wherein said culture or collection of strains has been contacted with said compound;

obtaining a second nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a second culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises the same strains as said first culture or collection of strains wherein said second culture or collection of strains has not been contacted with said compound;

performing a first amplification reaction on said first nucleic acid sample using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains;

performing a second amplification reaction on said second nucleic acid sample using the same set of primer pairs used in said first amplification reaction;

and comparing the amount of each amplification product in said first amplification reaction to the amount of that amplification product in said second amplification reaction, wherein an increased level of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products and a decreased level of of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products, wherein said first and second cultures or collection of strains comprise a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from

the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed or underexpressed.

505. A method for identifying the target of a compound which inhibits the proliferation of an organism comprising:

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obtaining a first nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a first culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism and wherein said culture or collection of strains has been contacted with said compound;

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obtaining a second nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a second culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises the same strains as said first culture or collection of strains wherein said second culture or collection of strains has not been contacted with said compound;

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performing a first amplification reaction on said first nucleic acid sample using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains;

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performing a second amplification reaction on said second nucleic acid sample using the same set of primer pairs used in said first amplification reaction;

and comparing the amount of each amplification product in said first amplification

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reaction to the amount of that amplification product in said second amplification reaction, wherein an increased level of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products and a decreased level of of an amplification product in said first amplification reaction relative to said second amplification reaction indicates that the gene product corresponding to said amplification product is the target of said compound if said culture or strain overexpresses said gene products, wherein said first and second culture or collection of strains comprise a strain in which a gene product comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the

group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-

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78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

506. The method of Paragraph 500, 501, 502, 503, 504 or 505, wherein one member of each primer pair for each of said genes is labeled with a detectable dye.

- 507. The method of Paragraph 500, 501, 502, 503, 504 or 505, wherein the native promoters of said genes which encode said gene products have been replaced with a regulatable promoter and one of the primers in said primer pairs is complementary to a nucleotide sequence within said regulatable promoter.
- 508. The method of Paragraph 500, 501, 502, 503, 504 or 505, wherein the native promoters for each of said genes were replaced with the same regulatable promoter.
- 509. The method of Paragraph 500, 501, 502, 503, 504 or 505, wherein more than one regulatable promoter was used to replace the promoters of said genes such that some of said genes are under the control of a different regulatable promoter.
- 510. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which transcribe an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the nucleic acids which encode said antisense nucleic acids, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

511. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which transcribe an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the nucleic acids which encode said antisense nucleic acids, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length

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distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

512. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which transcribe an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the nucleic acids which encode said antisense nucleic acids, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

513. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which transcribe an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the nucleic acids which encode said antisense nucleic acids, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

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determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

514. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which transcribe an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the nucleic acids which encode said antisense nucleic acids, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as

determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed or underexpressed.

515. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

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obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which transcribe an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

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performing an amplification reaction using a set of primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the nucleic acids which encode said antisense nucleic acids, wherein the members of said set of primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the lengths of the amplification products from the other primer pairs if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

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determining the lengths of the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

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516. The method of Paragraph 510, 511, 512, 513, 514 or 515, wherein one member of each primer pair for each of said genes is labeled with a detectable dye.

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517. The method of Paragraph 510, 511, 512, 513, 514 or 515, wherein: said nucleic acid sample is divided into N aliquots; and

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said amplification reaction is performed on each aliquot using primer pairs complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to 1/N of the genes which encode said gene products, wherein one of the members of each primer pair in each aliquot is labeled with a dye and wherein the dyes on the primers in each aliquot are distinguishable from one another.

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518. The method of Paragraph 517, further comprising pooling the amplification products from each of the aliquots prior to determining the lengths of the amplification products.

519. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which overexpress or underexpress a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein said primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product which is distinguishable from the amplification products produced by the other primer pairs on the a basis selected from the group consisting of length, detectable label and both length and detectable label if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

identifying the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

520. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which overexpress or underexpress a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein said primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product which is distinguishable from the amplification products produced by the other primer pairs on the a basis selected from the group consisting of length, detectable label and both length and detectable label if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

identifying the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

521. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of

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strains which overexpress or underexpress a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein said primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product which is distinguishable from the amplification products produced by the other primer pairs on the a basis selected from the group consisting of length, detectable label and both length and detectable label if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

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identifying the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

522. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which overexpress or underexpress a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

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performing an amplification reaction using primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein said primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product which is distinguishable from the amplification products produced by the other primer pairs on the a basis selected from the group consisting of length, detectable label and both length and detectable label if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

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identifying the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide

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sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

523. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of strains which overexpress or underexpress a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein said primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product which is distinguishable from the amplification products produced by the other primer pairs on the a basis selected from the group consisting of length, detectable label and both length and detectable label if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

identifying the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed or underexpressed.

524. A method for determining the extent to which each of a plurality of strains are present in a culture or collection of strains comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid sample comprising nucleic acids from a culture or collection of strains wherein said culture or collection of strains comprises a plurality of

strains which overexpress or underexpress a different gene product which is required for proliferation of said organism;

performing an amplification reaction using primer pairs which are complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to the genes which encode said gene products, wherein said primer pairs are designed such that each primer pair would yield an amplification product which is distinguishable from the amplification products produced by the other primer pairs on the a basis selected from the group consisting of length, detectable label and both length and detectable label if a strain comprising the nucleotide sequences complementary to said primer pair is present in said culture or collection of strains; and

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identifying the amplification products obtained in said amplification reaction, wherein said culture comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed.

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- 525. The method of Paragraph 519, 520, 521, 522, 523 or 524, wherein said primer pairs are divided into at least two sets, each primer pair comprises a primer which is labeled with a distinguishable dye, and the distinguishable dye used to label each set of primer pairs is distinguishable from the dye used to label the other sets of primer pairs.
 - 526. The method of Paragraph 519, 520, 521, 522, 523 or 524, wherein: said nucleic acid sample is divided into N aliquots; and

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said amplification reaction is performed on each aliquot using primer pairs complementary to nucleotide sequences within or adjacent to 1/N of the genes which encode said gene products, wherein one of the members of each primer pair in each aliquot is labeled with a dye and wherein the dyes on the primers in each aliquot are distinguishable from one another.

527. The method of Paragraph 526, further comprising pooling the amplification products from each of the aliquots prior to determining the lengths of the amplification products.

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528. The method of Paragraph 519, 520, 521, 522, 523 or 524, wherein the native promoters of said genes which encode said gene products have been replaced with a regulatable promoter and one of the primers in said primer pairs is complementary to a nucleotide sequence within said regulatable promoter.

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529. The method of Paragraph 528, wherein the native promoters for each of said genes were replaced with the same regulatable promoter.

530. The method of Paragraph 528, wherein more than one regulatable promoter was used to replace the promoters of said genes such that some of said genes are under the control of a different regulatable promoter.

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Definitions

By "biological pathway" is meant any discrete cell function or process that is carried out by a gene product or a subset of gene products. Biological pathways include anabolic, catabolic, enzymatic, biochemical and metabolic pathways as well as pathways involved in the production of cellular structures such as cell walls. Biological pathways that are usually required for proliferation of cells or microorganisms include, but are not limited to, cell division, DNA synthesis and replication, RNA synthesis (transcription), protein synthesis (translation), protein processing, protein transport, fatty acid biosynthesis, electron transport chains, cell wall synthesis, cell membrane production, synthesis and maintenance, and the like.

By "inhibit activity of a gene or gene product" is meant having the ability to interfere with the function of a gene or gene product in such a way as to decrease expression of the gene, in such a way as to reduce the level or activity of a product of the gene or in such a way as to inhibit the interaction of the gene or gene product with other biological molecules required for its activity. Agents which inhibit the activity of a gene include agents that inhibit transcription of the gene, agents that inhibit processing of the transcript of the gene, agents that reduce the stability of the transcript of the gene, and agents that inhibit translation of the mRNA transcribed from the gene. In microorganisms, agents which inhibit the activity of a gene can act to decrease expression of the operon in which the gene resides or alter the folding or processing of operon RNA so as to reduce the level or activity of the gene product. The gene product can be a non-translated RNA such as ribosomal RNA, a translated RNA (mRNA) or the protein product resulting from translation of the gene mRNA. Of particular utility to the present invention are antisense RNAs that have activities against the operons or genes to which they specifically hybridze.

By "activity against a gene product" is meant having the ability to inhibit the function or to reduce the level or activity of the gene product in a cell. This includes, but is not limited to, inhibiting the enzymatic activity of the gene product or the ability of the gene product to interact with other biological molecules required for its activity, including inhibiting the gene product's assembly into a multimeric structure.

By "activity against a protein" is meant having the ability to inhibit the function or to reduce the level or activity of the protein in a cell. This includes, but is not limited to, inhibiting the enzymatic activity of the protein or the ability of the protein to interact with other biological molecules required for its activity, including inhibiting the protein's assembly into a multimeric structure.

By "activity against a nucleic acid" is meant having the ability to inhibit the function or to reduce the level or activity of the nucleic acid in a cell. This includes, but is not limited to, inhibiting the ability of the nucleic acid interact with other biological molecules required for its activity, including inhibiting the nucleic acid's assembly into a multimeric structure.

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By "activity against a gene" is meant having the ability to inhibit the function or expression of the gene in a cell. This includes, but is not limited to, inhibiting the ability of the gene to interact with other biological molecules required for its activity.

By "activity against an operon" is meant having the ability to inhibit the function or reduce the level of one or more products of the operon in a cell. This includes, but is not limited to, inhibiting the enzymatic activity of one or more products of the operon or the ability of one or more products of the operon to interact with other biological molecules required for its activity.

By "antibiotic" is meant an agent which inhibits the proliferation of a cell or microorganism.

By "E. coli or Escherichia coli" is meant Escherichia coli or any organism previously categorized as a species of Shigella including Shigella boydii, Shigella flexneri, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella sonnei, Shigella 2A.

By "homologous coding nucleic acid" is meant a nucleic acid homologous to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or a portion thereof. In some embodiments, the homologous coding nucleic acid may have at least 97%, at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, or at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397 and fragments comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides thereof. In other embodiments the homologous coding nucleic acids may have at least 97%, at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, or at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of the nucleotide sequences complementary to one of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 and fragments comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides thereof. Identity may be measured using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters or tBLASTX with the default parameters. (Altschul, S.F. et al. Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: A New Generation of Protein Database Search Programs, Nucleic Acid Res. 25: 3389-3402 (1997). Alternatively a "homologuous coding nucleic acid" could be identified by membership of the gene of interest to a functional orthologue cluster. All other members of that orthologue cluster would be considered homologues. Such a library of functional orthologue clusters can be found at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/COG. A gene can be classified into a cluster of orthologous groups or COG by using the COGNITOR program available at the above web site, or by direct BLASTP comparison of the gene of interest to the members of the COGs and analysis of these results as described by Tatusov, R.L., Galperin, M.Y., Natale, D. A. and Koonin, E.V. (2000) The COG database: a tool for genome-scale analysis of protein functions and evolution. Nucleic Acids Research v. 28 n. 1, pp33-36.

Homologous coding nucleic acids and the homologous polypeptides which they encode may also be identified using a "reciprocal" best-hit analysis. To facilitate the identification of homologous coding nucleic acids and homologous polypeptides, paralogous genes within each of

51 organisms are identified and clustered prior to comparison to other organisms. Briefly, the polypeptide sequence of each polypeptide encoded by each open reading frame (ORF) in a given organism is compared to the polypeptide sequence encoded by every other ORF for that organism for each of the 51 pathogenic organisms (PathoSeq Sept 2001 release) using BLASTP 2.09 algorithm without filtering. Simultaneously, the polypeptide sequence encoded by each ORF of an organism is compared to the polypeptide sequences encoded by each of the ORFs in the remaining 51 organisms. Those polypeptides within a single organism that shared a higher degree of sequence identity to one another than to polypeptide sequences obtained from any other organisms are clustered as "paralog" sequences for "reciprocal" best-hit analysis.

For each reference organism, the 50 homologous coding nucleic acids (and the 50 homologous polypeptides which they encode) can be determined by identifying the ORFs in each of the 50 comparison organisms which encode a polypeptide sharing the highest degree of amino acid sequence identity to the polypeptide encoded by the ORF from the reference organism. The accuracy of the identification of the predicted homologous coding nucleic acids (and the homologous polypeptides which they encode) is confirmed by a "reciprocal" BLAST analysis in which the polypeptide sequence of the predicted homologous polypeptide is compared against the polypeptides encoded by each of the ORFS in the reference organism using BLASTP 2.09 algorithm without filtering. Only those polypeptides that share the highest degree of amino acid sequence identity in each portion of the two-way comparison are retained for further analysis.

The term "homologous coding nucleic acid" also includes nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which encode polypeptides having at least 99%, 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 70%, at least 60%, at least 50%, at least 40% or at least 25% maino acid identity or similarity to a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of one of SEQ ID NOs: 42,398-78,581 or to a polypeptpide whose expression is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence of one of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 or fragments comprising at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, or 150 consecutive amino acids thereof as determined using the FASTA version 3.0t78 algorithm with the default parameters. Alternatively, protein identity or similarity may be identified using BLASTP with the default parameters, BLASTX with the default parameters, TBLASTN with the default parameters, or tBLASTX with the default parameters. (Altschul, S.F. et al. Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: A New Generation of Protein Database Search Programs, Nucleic Acid Res. 25: 3389-3402 (1997).

Additionally, homologous coding nucleic acids and the homologous polypeptides which they encode may be identified using a "reciprocal" best-hit analysis. To facilitate the identification of homologous coding nucleic acids and homologous polypeptides, paralogous genes within each of 51 organisms are identified and clustered prior to comparison to other organisms. Briefly, the polypeptide sequence of each polypeptide encoded by each open reading frame (ORF) in a given organism is compared to the polypeptide sequence encoded by every other ORF for that organism for each of the 51 pathogenic organisms (PathoSeq Sept 2001 release) using BLASTP 2.09

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algorithm without filtering. Simultaneously, the polypeptide sequence encoded by each ORF of an organism is compared to the polypeptide sequences encoded by each of the ORFs in the remaining 51 organisms. Those polypeptides within a single organism that shared a higher degree of sequence identity to one another than to polypeptide sequences obtained from any other organisms are clustered as "paralog" sequences for "reciprocal" best-hit analysis.

For each reference organism, the 50 homologous coding nucleic acids (and the 50 homologous polypeptides which they encode) can be determined by identifying the ORFs in each of the 50 comparison organisms which encode a polypeptide sharing the highest degree of amino acid sequence identity to the polypeptide encoded by the ORF from the reference organism. The accuracy of the identification of the predicted homologous coding nucleic acids (and the homologous polypeptides which they encode) is confirmed by a "reciprocal" BLAST analysis in which the polypeptide sequence of the predicted homologous polypeptide is compared against the polypeptides encoded by each of the ORFS in the reference organism using BLASTP 2.09 algorithm without filtering. Only those polypeptides that share the highest degree of amino acid sequence identity in each portion of the two-way comparison are retained for further analysis.

The term "homologous coding nucleic acid" also includes coding nucleic acids which hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the nucleotide sequences complementary to one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397 and coding nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of the sequences complementary to one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397. As used herein, "stringent conditions" means hybridization to filter-bound nucleic acid in 6xSSC at about 45°C followed by one or more washes in 0.1xSSC/0.2% SDS at about 68°C. Other exemplary stringent conditions may refer, e.g., to washing in 6xSSC/0.05% sodium pyrophosphate at 37°C, 48°C, 55°C, and 60°C as appropriate for the particular probe being used.

The term "homologous coding nucleic acid" also includes coding nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of the sequences complementary to one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397 and coding nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of the sequences complementary to one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397. As used herein, "moderate conditions" means hybridization to filter-bound DNA in 6x sodium chloride/sodium citrate (SSC) at about 45°C followed by one or more washes in 0.2xSSC/0.1% SDS at about 42-65°C.

The term "homologous coding nucleic acids" also includes nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which encode a gene product whose activity may be complemented by a gene encoding a gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213. In some embodiments, the

homologous coding nucleic acids may encode a gene product whose activity is complemented by the gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397. In other embodiments, the homologous coding nucleic acids may comprise a nucleotide sequence encode a gene product whose activity is complemented by one of the polypeptides of SEQ ID NOs. 42,398-78,581.

The term "homologous antisense nucleic acid" includes nucleic acids comprising a nucleotide sequence having at least 97%, at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, or at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of one of the sequences of SEQ ID NOS. 1-6213 and fragments comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides thereof. Homologous antisense nucleic acids may also comprising nucleotide sequences which have at least 97%, at least 95%, at least 85%, at least 80%, or at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of the sequences complementary to one of sequences of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397 and fragments comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides thereof. Nucleic acid identity may be determined as described above.

The term "homologous antisense nucleic acid" also includes antisense nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleotide sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 and antisense nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of the sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213. Homologous antisense nucleic acids also include antisense nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397 and antisense nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397.

The term "homologous antisense nucleic acid" also includes antisense nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a nucleotide sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 and antisense nucleic acids comprising nucleotide seuqences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of the sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213. Homologous antisense nucleic acids also include antisense nucleic acids comprising nucleotide seuqences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397 and antisense nucleic acids which comprising nucleotide sequences hybridize under moderate conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42,397.

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By "homologous polypeptide" is meant a polypeptide homologous to a polypeptide whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or by a homologous antisense nucleic acid. The term "homologous polypeptide" includes polypeptides having at least 99%, 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 70%, at least 60%, at least 50%, at least 40% or at least 25% amino acid identity or similarity to a polypeptide whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 or by a homologous antisense nucleic acid, or polypeptides having at least 99%, 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 70%, at least 60%, at least 50%, at least 40% or at least 25% amino acid identity or similarity to a polypeptide to a fragment comprising at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, or 150 consecutive amino acids of a polypeptide whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or by a homologous antisense nucleic acid. Identity or similarity may be determined using the FASTA version 3.0t78 algorithm with the default parameters. Alternatively, protein identity or similarity may be identified using BLASTP with the default parameters, BLASTX with the default parameters, or TBLASTN with the default parameters. (Altschul, S.F. et al. Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: A New Generation of Protein Database Search Programs, Nucleic Acid Res. 25: 3389-3402 (1997). Additionally, homologous coding nucleic acids and the homologous polypeptides which they encode may be identified using a "reciprocal" best-hit analysis. To facilitate the identification of homologous coding nucleic acids and homologous polypeptides, paralogous genes within each of 51 organisms are identified and clustered prior to comparison to other organisms. Briefly, the polypeptide sequence of each polypeptide encoded by each open reading frame (ORF) in a given organism is compared to the polypeptide sequence encoded by every other ORF for that organism for each of the 51 pathogenic organisms (PathoSeq Sept 2001 release) using BLASTP 2.09 algorithm without filtering. Simultaneously, the polypeptide sequence encoded by each ORF of an organism is compared to the polypeptide sequences encoded by each of the ORFs in the remaining 51 organisms. Those polypeptides within a single organism that shared a higher degree of sequence identity to one another than to polypeptide sequences obtained from any other organisms are clustered as "paralog" sequences for "reciprocal" best-hit analysis.

For each reference organism, the 50 homologous coding nucleic acids (and the 50 homologous polypeptides which they encode) can be determined by identifying the ORFs in each of the 50 comparison organisms which encode a polypeptide sharing the highest degree of amino acid sequence identity to the polypeptide encoded by the ORF from the reference organism. The accuracy of the identification of the predicted homologous coding nucleic acids (and the homologous polypeptides which they encode) is confirmed by a "reciprocal" BLAST analysis in which the polypeptide sequence of the predicted homologous polypeptide is compared against the polypeptides encoded by each of the ORFS in the reference organism using BLASTP 2.09

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algorithm without filtering. Only those polypeptides that share the highest degree of amino acid sequence identity in each portion of the two-way comparison are retained for further analysis.

The term homologous polypeptide also includes polypeptides having at least 99%, 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 70%, at least 60%, at least 50%, at least 40% or at least 25% amino acid identity or similarity to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42,398-78,581 and polypeptides having at least 99%, 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 70%, at least 60%, at least 50%, at least 40% or at least 25% amino acid identity or similarity to a fragment comprising at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, or 150 consecutive amino acids of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42,398-78,581.

The invention also includes polynucleotides, preferably DNA molecules, that hybridize to one of the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42,397 or the complements of any of the preceding nucleic acids. Such hybridization may be under stringent or moderate conditions as defined above or under other conditions which permit specific hybridization. The nucleic acid molecules of the invention that hybridize to these DNA sequences include oligodeoxynucleotides ("oligos") which hybridize to the target gene under highly stringent or stringent conditions. In general, for oligos between 14 and 70 nucleotides in length the melting temperature (Tm) is calculated using the formula:

 $Tm (^{\circ}C) = 81.5 + 16.6(log[monovalent cations (molar)] + 0.41 (% G+C) - (500/N)$

where N is the length of the probe. If the hybridization is carried out in a solution containing formamide, the melting temperature may be calculated using the equation:

 $Tm(^{\circ}C) = 81.5 + 16.6(log[monovalent cations (molar)] + 0.41(% G+C) - (0.61)$ (% formamide) - (500/N)

where N is the length of the probe. In general, hybridization is carried out at about 20-25 degrees below Tm (for DNA-DNA hybrids) or about 10-15 degrees below Tm (for RNA-DNA hybrids).

Other hybridization conditions are apparent to those of skill in the art (see, for example, Ausubel, F.M. *et al.*, eds., 1989, *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, Vol. I, Green Publishing Associates, Inc. and John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, at pp. 6.3.1-6.3.6 and 2.10.3.

The term, Salmonella, is the generic name for a large group of gram negative enteric bacteria that are closely related to Escherichia coli. The diseases caused by Salmonella are often due to contamination of foodstuffs or the water supply and affect millions of people each year. Traditional methods of Salmonella taxonomy were based on assigning a separate species name to each serologically distinguishable strain (Kauffmann, F 1966 The bacteriology of the Enterobacteriaceae. Munksgaard, Copenhagen). Serology of Salmonella is based on surface antigens (O [somatic] and H [flagellar]). Over 2,400 serotypes or serovars of Salmonella are known (Popoff, et al. 2000 Res. Microbiol. 151:63-65). Therefore, each serotype was considered to

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be a separate species and often given names, accordingly (e.g. S. paratyphi, S. typhimurium, S. typhi, S. enteriditis, etc.).

However, by the 1970s and 1980s it was recognized that this system was not only cumbersome, but also inaccurate. Then, many *Salmonella* species were lumped into a single species (all serotypes and subgenera I, II, and IV and all serotypes of *Arizona*) with a second subspecies, *S. bongorii* also recognized (Crosa, et al., 1973, J. Bacteriol. 115:307-315). Though species designations are based on the highly variable surface antigens, the *Salmonella* are very similar otherwise with a major exception being pathogenicity determinants.

There has been some debate on the correct name for the Salmonella species. Currently (Brenner, et al. 2000 J. Clin. Microbiol. 38:2465-2467), the accepted name is Salmonella enterica. S. enterica is divided into six subspecies (I, S. enterica subsp. enterica; II, S. enterica, subsp. salamae; IIIa, S. enterica subsp. arizonàe; IIIb, S. enterica subsp. diarizonae; IV, S. enterica subsp. houtenae; and VI, S. enterica subsp. indica). Within subspecies I, serotypes are used to distinguish each of the serotypes or serovars (e.g. S. enterica serotype Enteriditis, S. enterica serotype Typhimurium, S. enterica serotype Typhi, and S. enterica serotype Choleraesuis, etc.). Current convention is to spell this out on first usage (Salmonella enterica ser. Typhimurium) and then use an abbreviated form (Salmonella Typhimurium or S. Typhimurium). Note, the genus and species names (Salmonella enterica) are italicized but not the serotype/serovar name (Typhimurium). Because the taxonomic committees have yet to officially approve of the actual species name, this latter system is what is employed by the CDC (Brenner, et al. 2000 J. Clin. Microbiol. 38:2465-2467). Due to the concerns of both taxonomic priority and medical importance, some of these serotypes might ultimately receive full species designations (S.typhi would be the most notable).

Therefore, as used herein "Salmonella enterica or S. enterica" includes serovars Typhi, Typhimurium, Paratyphi, Choleraesuis, etc." However, appeals of the "official" name are in process and the taxonomic designations may change (S. choleraesuis is the species name that could replace S. enterica based solely on priority).

By "identifying a compound" is meant to screen one or more compounds in a collection of compounds such as a combinatorial chemical library or other library of chemical compounds or to characterize a single compound by testing the compound in a given assay and determining whether it exhibits the desired activity.

By "inducer" is meant an agent or solution which, when placed in contact with a cell or microorganism, increases transcription, or inhibitor and/or promoter clearance/fidelity, from a desired promoter.

As used herein, "nucleic acid" means DNA, RNA, or modified nucleic acids. Thus, the terminology "the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: X" or "the nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence" includes both the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: X and an RNA sequence in which the thymidines in the DNA sequence have been substituted with uridines in the RNA sequence and in which the deoxyribose backbone of the DNA sequence has been substituted with a ribose backbone

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in the RNA sequence. Modified nucleic acids are nucleic acids having nucleotides or structures which do not occur in nature, such as nucleic acids in which the internucleotide phosphate residues with methylphosphonates, phosphorothioates, phosphoramidates, and phosphate esters. Nonphosphate internucleotide analogs such as siloxane bridges, carbonate bridges, thioester bridges, as well as many others known in the art may also be used in modified nucleic acids. Modified nucleic acids may also comprise, α -anomeric nucleotide units and modified nucleotides such as 1,2-dideoxy-d-ribofuranose, 1,2-dideoxy-1-phenylribofuranose, and N^4 , N^4 -ethano-5-methyl-cytosine are contemplated for use in the present invention. Modified nucleic acids may also be peptide nucleic acids in which the entire deoxyribose-phosphate backbone has been exchanged with a chemically completely different, but structurally homologous, polyamide (peptide) backbone containing 2-aminoethyl glycine units.

As used herein, "sub-lethal" means a concentration of an agent below the concentration required to inhibit all cell growth.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1A illustrates a method for replacing a promoter using a promoter replacement cassette comprising a 5' region homologous to the sequence which is 5' of the natural promoter in the chromosome, the promoter which is to replace the chromosomal promoter and a 3' region which is homologous to sequences 3' of the natural promoter in the chromosome.

Figure 1B illustrates a method for replacing a promoter using a promoter replacement cassette comprising a nucleic acid encoding an identifiable or selectable marker disposed between the 5' region which is homologous to the sequence 5' of the natural promoter and the promoter which is to replace the chromosomal promoter and a transcriptional terminator 3' of the gene encoding an identifiable or selectable marker.

Figures 2A and 2B illustrate one method for identifying amplification products which are underrepresented or overrepresented in a culture.

Figures 3A and 3B illustrate another method for identifying amplification products which are underrepresented or overrepresented in a culture.

Figure 4 illustrates the results of a hybridization analysis where the antisense nucleic acid expressed by a strain in the culture is not complementary to all or a portion of the gene encoding the target of the compound (i.e. a nonspecific strain).

Figure 5 illustrates the results of a hybridization analysis where the antisense nucleic acid expressed by a strain in the culture is complementary to all or a portion of the gene encoding the target of the compound, the hybridization intensity for that strain will be intimately correlated with the concentration of the compound (i.e. a specific strain).

Figure 6 illustrates an oligonucleotide comprising a lac operator flanked on each side by 40 nucleotides homologous to the promoter is the promoter which drives expression of the *yabB yabC* ftsL ftsI murE genes in an operon for use in inserting the lac operator into the promoter.

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Figure 7 is an IPTG dose response curve in *E. coli* transformed with an IPTG-inducible plasmid containing either an antisense clone to the *E. coli* ribosomal protein *rplW* (AS-*rplW*) which is required for protein synthesis and essential for cell proliferation, or an antisense clone to the *elaD* (AS-*elaD*) gene which is not known to be involved in protein synthesis and which is also essential for proliferation.

Figure 8A is a tetracycline dose response curve in *E. coli* transformed with an IPTG-inducible plasmid containing antisense to rplW (AS-rplW) in the absence (0) or presence of IPTG at concentrations that result in 20% and 50% growth inhibition.

Figure 8B is a tetracycline dose response curve in *E. coli* transformed with an IPTG-inducible plasmid containing antisense to *elaD* (AS-*elaD*)in the absence (0) or presence of IPTG at concentrations that result in 20% and 50% growth inhibition.

Figure 9 is a graph showing the fold increase in tetracycline sensitivity of *E. coli* transfected with antisense clones to essential ribosomal proteins *L23* (AS-rplW) and *L7/L12* and *L10* (AS-rplLrplJ). Antisense clones to genes known to not be directly involved in protein synthesis, atpB/E (AS-atpB/E), visC (AS-visC), elaD (AS-elaD), yohH (AS-yohH), are much less sensitive to tetracycline.

Figure 10 illustrates the results of an assay in which *Staphylococcus aureus* cells transcribing an antisense nucleic acid complementary to the gyrB gene encoding the β subunit of gyrase were contacted with several antibiotics whose targets were known.

Figure 11 illustrates a microtitration plate which contains antibiotic and inducer at gradient concentrations in a matrix format in 10 times excess quantity.

Figure 12 illustrates the results of an experiment demonstrating that at appropriate concentrations of inducer, cells which overexpress the *defB* gene product were able to grow at elevated concentrations of the antibiotic actinonin

Figure 13 illustrates the results of an experiment demonstrating that at appropriate concentrations of inducer cells which overexpress the *folA* gene product were able to grow at elevated concentrations of the antibiotic trimethoprim.

Figure 14 illustrates the results of an experiment demonstrating that overexpression of the *fabI* gene confers resistance to triclosan, which acts on the gene product of the *fabI* gene, but does not confer resistance to cerulenin, trimethoprim, or actinonin, each of which act on other gene products.

Figure 15 illustrates the results of an experiment demonstrating that overexpression of the *folA* gene confers resistance to trimethoprim, which acts on the gene product of the *folA* gene but does not confer resistance to triclosan, cerulenin, or actinonin, each of which act on other gene products.

Figure 16 illustrates the results of an experiment demonstrating that overexpression of the defB gene conferred resistance to actinonin, which acts on the gene product of the defB gene but

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does not confer resistance to cerulenin, trimethoprim, or triclosan, each of which act on other gene products.

Figure 17 illustrates the results of an experiment demonstrating that overexpression of the fabF gene conferred resistance to cerulenin, which acts on the gene product of the fabF gene, β keto-acyl carrier protein synthase but does not confer resistance to triclosan, trimethoprim, or actinonin, each of which act on other gene products.

Figure 18 illustrates the results of experiments in which a mixture of nine strains was grown wells in a 96 well plate in medium containing various concentrations of inducer and a sufficient concentration of actinonin, cerulenin, triclosan or trimethoprim to inhibit the growth of strains which do not overexpress the targets of these antibiotics.

Detailed Description of Embodiments of the Invention

The present invention describes a group of prokaryotic genes and gene families required for cellular proliferation. Exemplary genes and gene families from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholera and Yersinia pestis are provided. A proliferation-required gene or gene family is one where, in the absence or substantial reduction of a gene transcript and/or gene product, growth or viability of the cell or microorganism is reduced or eliminated. Thus, as used herein, the terminology "proliferation-required" or "required for proliferation" encompasses instances where the absence or substantial reduction of a gene transcript and/or gene product completely eliminates cell growth as well as instances where the absence of a gene transcript and/or gene product merely reduces cell growth. These proliferation-required genes can be used as potential targets for the generation of new antimicrobial agents. To achieve that goal, the present invention also encompasses assays for analyzing proliferation-required genes and for identifying compounds which interact with the gene and/or gene products of the proliferation-required genes. In addition, the present invention contemplates the expression of genes and the purification of the proteins encoded by the nucleic acid sequences identified as required proliferation genes and reported herein. The purified proteins can be

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used to generate reagents and screen small molecule libraries or other candidate compound libraries for compounds that can be further developed to yield novel antimicrobial compounds.

The present invention also describes methods for identification of nucleotide sequences homologous to these genes and polypeptides described herein, including nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences homologous to the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 and polypeptides homologous to the polypeptides of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581. For example, these sequences may be used to identify homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids, or homologous polypeptides in microorganisms such as Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae. Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma, genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species. In some embodiments, the homologous coding nucleic acids, homologus antisense nucleic acids, or homologous polypeptides are identified in an organism other than E. coli.

The homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids, or homologous polypeptides, may then be used in each of the methods described herein, including methods of identifying compounds which inhibit the proliferation of the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, methods of inhibiting the growth of the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologus antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, methods of identifying compounds which influence the activity or level of a gene product required for proliferation of the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous

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polypeptide, methods for identifying compounds or nucleic acids having the ability to reduce the level or activity of a gene product required for proliferation of the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, methods of inhibiting the activity or expression of a gene in an operon required for proliferation of the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, methods for identifying a gene required for proliferation of the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, methods for identifying the biological pathway in which a gene or gene product required for proliferation of the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide lies, methods for identifying compounds having activity against biological pathway required for proliferation of the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, methods for determining the biological pathway on which a test compound acts in the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, methods of replacing an endogenous promoter with a regulatable promoter which controls the expression of the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, methods of inserting an operator within or near an endogenous promoter to provide regulatable expression of the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, methods of identifying the target on which a compound acts in the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide, and methods of inhibiting the proliferation of the organism containing the homologous coding nucleic acid, homologous antisense nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide in a subject. In some embodiments of the present invention, the methods are performed using an organism, other than E. coli or a gene or gene product from an organism other than E. coli.

One embodiment of the present invention utilizes a novel method to identify proliferation-required sequences. Generally, a library of nucleic acid sequences from a given source are subcloned or otherwise inserted immediately downstream of an inducible promoter on an appropriate vector, such as a *Staphylococcus aureus/E. coli* or *Pseudomonas aeruginosa/ E. coli* shuttle vector, or a vector which will replicate in both *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, or other vector or shuttle vector capable of functioning in the intended organism, thus forming an expression library. It is generally preferred that expression is directed by a regulatable promoter sequence such that expression level can be adjusted by addition of variable concentrations of an inducer molecule or of an inhibitor molecule to the medium. For example, a number of regulatable promoters useful for regulating the expression of nucleic acid sequences over a wide range of expression levels are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393, filed December 21, 2001. Temperature activated promoters, such as promoters regulated by temperature sensitive repressors, such as the lambda C₁₈₅₇ repressor, are also envisioned. Although the insert nucleic acids may be derived from the chromosome

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of the cell or microorganism into which the expression vector is to be introduced, because the insert is not in its natural chromosomal location, the insert nucleic acid is an exogenous nucleic acid for the purposes of the discussion herein. The term "expression" is defined as the production of a sense or antisense RNA molecule from a gene, gene fragment, genomic fragment, chromosome, operon or portion thereof. Expression can also be used to refer to the process of peptide or polypeptide synthesis. An expression vector is defined as a vehicle by which a ribonucleic acid (RNA) sequence is transcribed from a nucleic acid sequence carried within the expression vehicle. The expression vector can also contain features that permit translation of a protein product from the transcribed RNA message expressed from the exogenous nucleic acid sequence carried by the expression vector. Accordingly, an expression vector can produce an RNA molecule as its sole product or the expression vector can produce a RNA molecule that is ultimately translated into a protein product.

Once generated, the expression library containing the exogenous nucleic acid sequences is introduced into a population of cells (such as the organism from which the exogenous nucleic acid sequences were obtained) to search for genes that are required for bacterial proliferation. Because the library molecules are foreign, in context, to the population of cells, the expression vectors and the nucleic acid segments contained therein are considered exogenous nucleic acid.

Expression of the exogenous nucleic acid fragments in the test population of cells containing the expression library is then activated. Activation of the expression vectors consists of subjecting the cells containing the vectors to conditions that result in the expression of the exogenous nucleic acid sequences carried by the expression library. The test population of cells is then assayed to determine the effect of expressing the exogenous nucleic acid fragments on the test population of cells. Those expression vectors that negatively impact the growth of the cells upon induction of expression of the random sequences contained therein are identified, isolated, and purified for further study.

In some embodiments, vectors which comprises a regulatable fusion promoter selected from a suite of fusion promoters, wherein the promoter suite is useful for modulating both the basal and maximal levels of transcription of a nucleic acid over a wide dynamic range thus allowing the desired level of production of a transcript, can be used to express exogenous nucleic acids, including the nucleic acids of the present invention. Such promoters are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393, filed December 21, 2001, the disclosure of which is incorported herein by reference in its entirety.

In some other embodiments, vectors useful for the production of stabilized mRNA having an increased lifetime (including antisense RNA) in Gram negative organisms are described in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/343,512, filed December 21, 2001. Briefly, the stabilized antisense RNA may comprise an antisense RNA which was identified as inhibiting proliferation as described above which has been engineered to contain at least one stem loop flanking each end of the antisense nucleic acid. In some embodiments, the at least one stem-loop structure formed at the 5' end of the stabilized antisense nucleic acid comprises a flush, double stranded 5' end. In some embodiments, one or more of the stem loops comprises a rho independent

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terminator. In additional embodiments, the stabilized antisense RNA lacks a ribosome binding site. In further embodiments, the stabilized RNA lacks sites which are cleaved by one or more RNAses, such as RNAse E or RNAse III. In some embodiments, the stabilized antisense RNA may be transcribed in a cell which the activity of at least one enzyme involved in RNA degradation has been reduced. For example, the activity of an enzyme such as RNase E, RNase II, RNase III, polynucleotide phosphorylase, and poly(A) polymerase, RNA helicase, enolase or an enzyme having similar functions may be reduced in the cell.

Alternatively, genes required for proliferation may be identified by replacing the natural promoter for the proliferation required gene with a regulatable promoter as described above. The growth of such strains under conditions in which the promoter is active or non-repressed is compared to the growth under conditions in which the promoter is inactive or repressed. If the strains fail to grow or grow at a substantially reduced rate under conditions in which the promoter is inactive or repressed but grow normally under conditions in which the promoter is active or non-repressed, then the gene which is operably linked to the regulatable promoter encodes a gene product required for proliferation. For example, proliferation-required genes and gene products identified using promoter replacement are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/948,993.

For example, in some embodiments, the natural promoter may be replaced using techniques which employ homologous recombination to exchange a promoter present on the chromosome of the cell with the desired promoter. In such methodology, a nucleic acid comprising a promoter replacement cassette is introduced into the cell. As illustrated in Figure 1A, the promoter replacement cassette comprises a 5' region homologous to the sequence which is 5' of the natural promoter in the chromosome, the promoter which is to replace the chromosomal promoter and a 3' region which is homologous to sequences 3' of the natural promoter in the chromosome. In some embodiments, the promoter replacement cassette may also include a nucleic acid encoding an identifiable or selectable marker disposed between the 5' region which is homologous to the sequence 5' of the natural promoter and the promoter which is to replace the chromosomal promoter. If desired, the promoter replacement cassette may also contain a transcriptional terminator 3' of the gene encoding an identifiable or selectable marker, as illustrated in Figure 1B. As illustrated in Figure 1A and 1B, homologous recombination is allowed to occur between the chromosomal region containing the natural promoter and the promoter replacement cassette. Cells in which the promoter replacement cassette has integrated into the chromosome are identified or selected. To confirm that homologous recombination has occurred, the chromosomal structure of the cells may be verified by Southern analysis or PCR.

In some embodiments, the promoter replacement cassette may be introduced into the cell as a linear nucleic acid, such a PCR product or a restriction fragment. Alternatively, the promoter replacement may be introduced into the cell on a plasmid. Figures 1A and 1B illustrates the

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replacement of a chromosomal promoter with a desired promoter through homologous recombination.

In some embodiments, the cell into which the promoter replacement cassette is introduced may carry mutations which enhance its ability to be transformed with linear DNA or which enhance the frequency of homologous recombination. For example, if the cell is an *Escherichia coli* cell it may have a mutation in the gene encoding Exonuclease V of the RecBCD recombination complex. If the cell is an *Escherichia coli* cell it may have a mutation that activates the RecET recombinase of the Rac prophage and/or a mutation that enhances recombination through the RecF pathway. For example, the *Escherichia coli* cells may be RecB or RecC mutants carrying an sbcA or sbcB mutation. Alternatively, the *Escherichia coli* cells may be recD mutants. In other embodiments the *Escherichia coli* cells may express the λ Red recombination genes. For example, *Escherichia coli* cells suitable for use in techniques employing homologous recombination have been described in Datsenko, K.A. and Wanner, B.L., PNAS 97:6640-6645 (2000); Murphy, K.C., J. Bact 180: 2053-2071 (1998); Zhang, Y., et al., Nature Genetics 20: 123-128 (1998); and Muyrers, J.P.P. et al., Genes & Development 14: 1971-1982 (2000). It will be appreciated that cells carrying mutations in similar genes may be constructed in organisms other than *Escherichia coli*.

In some embodiments of the present invention, a regulatable fusion promoter selected from a suite of fusion promoters, wherein the promoter suite is useful for modulating both the basal and maximal levels of transcription of a nucleic acid over a wide dynamic range thus allowing the desired level of production of a transcript, is with the promoter replacement methods described above. Such promoters are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393, filed December 21, 2001, the disclosure of which is incorported herein by reference in its entirety.

A variety of assays are contemplated to identify nucleic acid sequences that negatively impact growth upon expression. In one embodiment, growth in cultures expressing exogenous nucleic acid sequences and growth in cultures not expressing these sequences is compared. Growth measurements are assayed by examining the extent of growth by measuring optical densities. Alternatively, enzymatic assays can be used to measure bacterial growth rates to identify exogenous nucleic acid sequences of interest. Colony size, colony morphology, and cell morphology are additional factors used to evaluate growth of the host cells. Those cultures that fail to grow or grow at a reduced rate under expression conditions are identified as containing an expression vector encoding a nucleic acid fragment that negatively affects a proliferation-required gene.

Once exogenous nucleic acids of interest are identified, they are analyzed. The first step of the analysis is to acquire the nucleotide sequence of the nucleic acid fragment of interest. To achieve this end, the insert in those expression vectors identified as containing a nucleotide sequence of interest is sequenced, using standard techniques well known in the art. The next step of the process is to determine the source of the nucleotide sequence. As used herein "source" means the genomic region containing the cloned fragment.

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Determination of the gene(s) corresponding to the nucleotide sequence is achieved by comparing the obtained sequence data with databases containing known protein and nucleotide sequences from various microorganisms. Thus, initial gene identification is made on the basis of significant sequence similarity or identity to either characterized or predicted *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Salmonella typhimurium* genes or their encoded proteins and/or homologues in other species.

The number of nucleotide and protein sequences available in database systems has been growing exponentially for years. For example, the complete nucleotide sequences of Caenorhabditis elegans and several bacterial genomes, including E. coli, Aeropyrum pernix, Aquifex aeolicus, Archaeoglobus fulgidus, Bacillus subtilis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium tetani, Corynebacterium diptheria, Deinococcus radiodurans, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori 26695, Helicobacter pylori J99, Methanobacterium Mycoplasma thermoautotrophicum, Methanococcus jannaschii, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pyrococcus abyssi, Pyrococcus horikoshii, Rickettsia prowazekii, Synechocystis PCC6803, Thermotoga maritima, Treponema pallidum, Bordetella pertussis, Campylobacter jejuni, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Mycobacterium tuberculosis CSU#93, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pyrobaculum aerophilum, Pyrococcus furiosus, Rhodobacter capsulatus, Salmonella typhimurium, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Ureaplasma urealyticum and Vibrio cholera are available. This nucleotide sequence information is stored in a number of databanks, such as GenBank, the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), the Genome Sequencing Center (http://genome.wustl.edu/gsc/salmonella.shtml), the Sanger Centre A variety (http://www.sanger.ac.uk/projects/S typhi) which are publicly available for searching. of computer programs are available to assist in the analysis of the sequences stored within these databases. FASTA, (W. R. Pearson (1990) "Rapid and Sensitive Sequence Comparison with FASTP and FASTA" Methods in Enzymology 183:63-98), Sequence Retrieval System (SRS), (Etzold & Argos, SRS an indexing and retrieval tool for flat file data libraries. Comput. Appl. Biosci. 9:49-57, 1993) are two examples of computer programs that can be used to analyze sequences of interest. In one embodiment of the present invention, the BLAST family of computer programs, which includes BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters, or BLASTX version 2.0 with the default parameters, is used to analyze nucleotide sequences.

BLAST, an acronym for "Basic Local Alignment Search Tool," is a family of programs for database similarity searching. The BLAST family of programs includes: BLASTN, a nucleotide sequence database searching program, BLASTX, a protein database searching program where the input is a nucleic acid sequence; and BLASTP, a protein database searching program. BLAST programs embody a fast algorithm for sequence matching, rigorous statistical methods for judging the significance of matches, and various options for tailoring the program for special situations. Assistance

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in using the program can be obtained by e-mail at blast@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov. tBLASTX can be used to translate a nucleotide sequence in all three potential reading frames into an amino acid sequence.

Bacterial genes are often transcribed in polycistronic groups. These groups comprise operons, which are a collection of genes and intergenic sequences under common regulation. The genes of an operon are transcribed on the same mRNA and are often related functionally. Given the nature of the screening protocol, it is possible that the identified exogenous nucleic acid corresponds to a gene or portion thereof with or without adjacent noncoding sequences, an intragenic sequence (i.e. a sequence within a gene), an intergenic sequence (i.e. a sequence between genes), a nucleotide sequence spanning at least a portion of two or more genes, a 5' noncoding region or a 3' noncoding region located upstream or downstream from the actual nucleotide sequence that is required for bacterial proliferation. Accordingly, it is often desirable to determine which gene(s) that is encoded within the operon is individually required for proliferation.

In one embodiment of the present invention, an operon is identified and then dissected to determine which gene or genes are required for proliferation. Operons can be identified by a variety of means known to those in the art. For example, the RegulonDB DataBase described by Huerta et al. (Nucl. Acids Res. 26:55-59, 1998), which may also be found on the website http://www.cifn.unam.mx/Computational_Biology/regulondb/, provides information about operons in Escherichia coli. The Subtilist database (http://bioweb.pasteur.fr/GenoList/SubtiList), (Moszer, I., Glaser, P. and Danchin, A. (1995) Microbiology 141: 261-268 and Moszer, I (1998) FEBS Letters 430: 28-36, may also be used to predict operons. This database lists genes from the fully sequenced, Gram positive bacteria, Bacillus subtilis, together with predicted promoters and terminator sites. This information can be used in conjunction with the Staphylococcus aureus genomic sequence data to predict operons and thus produce a list of the genes affected by the antisense nucleic acids of the present invention. The Pseudomonas aeruginosa web site (http://www.pseudomonas.com) can be used to help predict operon organization in this bacterium. The databases available from the Genome Sequencing Center Centre (http://genome.wustl.edu/gsc/salmonella.shtml), and the Sanger (http://www.sanger.ac.uk/projects/S typhi) may be used to predict operons in Salmonella typhimurium. The TIGR microbial database has an incomplete version of the E. faecalis genome http://www.tigr.org/cgi-bin/BlastSearch/blast.cgi?organism=e_faecalis. One can take a nucleotide sequence and BLAST it for homologs.

A number of techniques that are well known in the art can be used to dissect the operon. Analysis of RNA transcripts by Northern blot or primer extension techniques are commonly used to analyze operon transcripts. In one aspect of this embodiment, gene disruption by homologous recombination is used to individually inactivate the genes of an operon that is thought to contain a gene required for proliferation.

Several gene disruption techniques have been described for the replacement of a functional gene with a mutated, non-functional (null) allele. These techniques generally involve the use of

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homologous recombination. One technique using homologous recombination in *Staphylococcus aureus* is described in Xia et a.. 1999, Plasmid 42: 144-149. This technique uses crossover PCR to create a null allele with an in-frame deletion of the coding region of a target gene. The null allele is constructed in such a way that nucleotide sequences adjacent to the wild type gene are retained. These homologous sequences surrounding the deletion null allele provide targets for homologous recombination so that the wild type gene on the *Staphylococcus aureus* chromosome can be replaced by the constructed null allele. This method can be used with other bacteria as well, including *Salmonella* and *Klebsiella* species. Similar gene disruption methods that employ the counter selectable marker *sacB* (Schweizer, H. P., Klassen, T. and Hoang, T. (1996) Mol. Biol. of *Pseudomonas*. ASM press, 229-237, are available for *Pseudomonas*, *Salmonella* and *Klebsiella* species. *E. faecalis* genes can be disrupted by recombining in a non-replicating plasmid that contains an internal fragment to that gene (Leboeuf, C., L. Leblanc, Y. Auffray and A. Hartke. 2000, J. Bacteriol. 182:5799-5806.

The crossover PCR amplification product is subcloned into a suitable vector having a selectable marker, such as a drug resistance marker. In some embodiments the vector may have an origin of replication which is functional in E. coli or another organism distinct from the organism in which homologous recombination is to occur, allowing the plasmid to be grown in E. coli or the organism other than that in which homologous recombination is to occur, but may lack an origin of replication functional in Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae. Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae. Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis such that selection of the selectable marker requires integration of the vector into the homologous region of the Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus

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faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Moraxella Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis chromosome. Usually a single crossover event is responsible for this integration event such that the Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis. Moraxella catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholera or Yersinia pestis chromosome now contains a tandem duplication of the target gene consisting of one wild type allele and one deletion null allele separated by vector sequence. Subsequent resolution of the duplication results in both removal of the vector sequence and either restoration of the wild type gene or replacement by the in-frame deletion. The latter outcome will not occur if the gene should prove essential. A more detailed description of this method is provided in Example 10 below. It will be appreciated that this method may be practiced with any of the nucleic acids or organisms described herein.

Recombinant DNA techniques can be used to express the entire coding sequences of the gene identified as required for proliferation, or portions thereof. The over-expressed proteins can be used as reagents for further study. The identified exogenous sequences are isolated, purified, and cloned into a suitable expression vector using methods well known in the art. If desired, the nucleic acids can contain the nucleotide sequences encoding a signal peptide to facilitate secretion of the expressed protein.

Expression of fragments of the bacterial genes identified as required for proliferation is also contemplated by the present invention. The fragments of the identified genes can encode a polypeptide comprising at least 5, at least 10, at least 15, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 35, at least 40, at least 45, at least 50, at least 55, at least 60, at least 65, at least 75, or more than 75 consecutive amino

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acids of a gene complementary to one of the identified sequences of the present invention. The nucleic acids inserted into the expression vectors can also contain endogenous sequences upstream and downstream of the coding sequence.

When expressing the encoded protein of the identified nucleic acid required for bacterial proliferation or a fragment thereof, the nucleic acid to be expressed is operably linked to a promoter in an expression vector using conventional cloning technology. The expression vector can be any of the bacterial, insect, yeast, or mammalian expression systems known in the art. Commercially available vectors and expression systems are available from a variety of suppliers including Genetics Institute (Cambridge, MA), Stratagene (La Jolla, California), Promega (Madison, Wisconsin), and Invitrogen (San Diego, California). If desired, to enhance expression and facilitate proper protein folding, the codon usage and codon bias of the sequence can be optimized for the particular expression organism in which the expression vector is introduced, as explained by Hatfield, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,082,767, incorporated herein by this reference. Fusion protein expression systems are also contemplated by the present invention.

Following expression of the protein encoded by the identified exogenous nucleic acid, the protein may be purified. Protein purification techniques are well known in the art. Proteins encoded and expressed from identified exogenous nucleic acids can be partially purified using precipitation techniques, such as precipitation with polyethylene glycol. Alternatively, epitope tagging of the protein can be used to allow simple one step purification of the protein. In addition, chromatographic methods such as ion-exchange chromatography, gel filtration, use of hydroxyapaptite columns, immobilized reactive dyes, chromatofocusing, and use of high-performance liquid chromatography, may also be used to purify the protein. Electrophoretic methods such as one-dimensional gel electrophoresis, high-resolution two-dimensional polyacrylamide electrophoresis, isoelectric focusing, and others are contemplated as purification methods. Also, affinity chromatographic methods, comprising antibody columns, ligand presenting columns and other affinity chromatographic matrices are contemplated as purification methods in the present invention.

The purified proteins produced from the gene encoding sequences identified as required for proliferation can be used in a variety of protocols to generate useful antimicrobial reagents. In one embodiment of the present invention, antibodies are generated against the proteins expressed from the identified exogenous nucleic acids. Both monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies can be generated against the expressed proteins. Methods for generating monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies are well known in the art. Also, antibody fragment preparations prepared from the produced antibodies discussed above are contemplated.

In addition, the purified protein, fragments thereof, or derivatives thereof may be administered to an individual in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier to induce an immune response against the protein. Preferably, the immune response is a protective immune response which protects the individual. Methods for determining appropriate dosages of the protein and pharmaceutically acceptable carriers may be determined empiracally and are familiar to those skilled in the art.

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Another application for the purified proteins of the present invention is to screen small molecule libraries for candidate compounds active against the various target proteins of the present invention. Advances in the field of combinatorial chemistry provide methods, well known in the art, to produce large numbers of candidate compounds that can have a binding, or otherwise inhibitory effect on a target protein. Accordingly, the screening of small molecule libraries for compounds with binding affinity or inhibitory activity for a target protein produced from an identified gene is contemplated by the present invention.

In some embodiments of the present invention, a cell sensitized by expressing an an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, an antisense nucleic acid comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid which encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid which encodes at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, or 150 consecutive amino acids of a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a homologous antisense nucleic acid, an antisense nucleic acid comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of a homologous nucleic acid, a nucleic acid complementary to a homologous coding nucleic acid, a nucleic acid complementary to at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of a homologous coding nucleic acid, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid which encodes a homologous polypeptide, or a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid which encodes at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, or 150 consecutive amino acids of a homologous polypeptide, is contacted with one or more candidate compounds from a small molecule library. Candidate compounds which further inhibit the proliferation of the sensitized cell may be identified as possessing inhibitory activity for a target protein or product produced by the gene to which the antisense sequence is complementary.

A number of vectors useful in the above methods are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393, filed December 21, 2001.

In some embodiments of the present invention, the methods for the production of stabilized RNA, as described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 60/343,512, can be used for the production of a stabilized transcript, which corresponds to a nucleic acid described herein, having an increased lifetime in Gram-negative organisms. Briefly, the stabilized antisense RNA may comprise an antisense RNA which was identified as inhibiting proliferation as described above

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which has been engineered to contain at least one stem loop flanking each end of the antisense nucleic acid. In some embodiments, the at least one stem-loop structure formed at the 5' end of the stabilized antisense nucleic acid comprises a flush, double stranded 5' end. In some embodiments, one or more of the stem loops comprises a rho independent terminator. In additional embodiments, the stabilized antisense RNA lacks a ribosome binding site. In further embodiments, the stabilized RNA lacks sites which are cleaved by one or more RNAses, such as RNAse E or RNAse III. In some embodiments, the stabilized antisense RNA may be transcribed in a cell which the activity of at least one enzyme involved in RNA degradation has been reduced. For example, the activity of an enzyme such as RNase E, RNase II, RNase III, polynucleotide phosphorylase, and poly(A) polymerase, RNA helicase, enolase or an enzyme having similar functions may be reduced in the cell.

The present invention further contemplates utility against a variety of other pathogenic microorganisms in addition to Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae and Yersinia pestis. For example, homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids or homologous polypeptides from other pathogenic microorganisms (including nucleic acids homologous to the nucleic acids of SEO ID NOs.: 6214-42397, nucleic acids homologous to the antisense nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, and polypeptides homologous to the polypeptides of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581) may be identified using methods such as those described herein. The homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids or homologous polypeptides may be used to identify compounds which inhibit the proliferation of these other pathogenic microorganisms using methods such as those described herein.

For example, the proliferation-required nucleic acids, antisense nucleic acids, and polypeptides from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia

pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis described herein (including the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, the antisense nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, and the polypeptides of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581) may be used to identify homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids or homologous polypeptides required for proliferation in prokaryotes and eukaryotes. For example, nucleic acids or polypeptides required for the proliferation of protists, such as Plasmodium spp.; plants; animals, such as Entamoeba spp. and Contracaecum spp; and fungi including Candida spp., (e.g., Candida albicans), Cryptococcus neoformans, and Aspergillus fumigatus may be identified. In one embodiment of the present invention, monera, specifically bacteria, including both Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria, are probed in search of novel gene sequences required for proliferation. Likewise, homologous antisense nucleic acids which may be used to inhibit growth of these organisms or to identify antibiotics may also be identified. These embodiments are particularly important given the rise of drug resistant bacteria.

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The number of bacterial species that are becoming resistant to existing antibiotics is growing. A partial list of these microorganisms includes: Escherichia spp., such as E. coli, Enterococcus spp, such as E. faecalis; Pseudomonas spp., such as P. aeruginosa, Clostridium spp., such as C. botulinum, Haemophilus spp., such as H. influenzae, Enterobacter spp., such as E. cloacae, Vibrio spp., such as V. cholera; Moraxala spp., such as M. catarrhalis; Streptococcus spp., such as S. pneumoniae, Neisseria spp., such as N. gonorrhoeae; Mycoplasma spp., such as Mycoplasma pneumoniae; Salmonella typhimurium; Helicobacter pylori; Escherichia coli; and Mycobacterium tuberculosis. The genes and polypeptides identified as required for the proliferation of Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori. Legionella pneumophila. Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella

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multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis (including the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, the sequences complementary to the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, and the polypeptides of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581) can be used to identify homologous coding nucleic acids or homologous polypeptides required for proliferation from these and other organisms using methods such as nucleic acid hybridization and computer database analysis. Likewise, the antisense nucleic acids which inhibit proliferation of Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, monocytogenes. Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis (including the antisense nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or the sequences complementary thereto) may also be used to identify antisense nucleic acids which inhibit proliferation of these and other microorganisms or cells using nucleic acid hybridization or computer database analysis.

In one embodiment of the present invention, the nucleic acid sequences from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma

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urealyticum. Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis (including the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 and the antisense nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213) are used to screen genomic libraries generated from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Yersinia pestis and other bacterial species of interest. For example, the genomic library may be from Gram positive bacteria, Gram negative bacteria or other organisms including Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, pneumoniae, Mycobacterium ayium, Mycobacterium boyis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species, including coagulase negative species of Staphylococcus. In some embodiments, the genomic

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library may be from an organism other than *E. coli*. Standard molecular biology techniques are used to generate genomic libraries from various cells or microorganisms. In one aspect, the libraries are generated and bound to nitrocellulose paper. The identified exogenous nucleic acid sequences of the present invention can then be used as probes to screen the libraries for homologous sequences.

For example, the libraries may be screened to identify homologous coding nucleic acids or homologous antisense nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of the sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid complementary to one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of the sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.

The libraries may also be screened to identify homologous nucleic coding nucleic acids or homologous antisense nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a nucleic acid complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of the sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, nucleic acids comprising nucleic acid sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500

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consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a nucleic acid complementary to one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 and nucleic acids comprising nucleotide sequences which hybridize under moderate conditions to a fragment comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of the sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397.

The homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids or homologous polypeptides identified as above can then be used as targets or tools for the identification of new, antimicrobial compounds using methods such as those described herein. In some embodiments, the homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids, or homologous polypeptides may be used to identify compounds with activity against more than one microorganism. [Placeholder]

For example, the preceding methods may be used to isolate homologous coding nucleic acids or homologous antisense nucleic acids comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 97%, at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, or at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of one of the sequences of SEQ ID NOS. 1-6213, fragments comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides thereof, and the sequences complementary thereto. The preceding methods may also be used to isolate homologous coding nucleic acids or homologous antisense nucleic acids comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 97%, at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, or at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of one of the nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, fragments comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides thereof, and the sequences complementary thereto. Identity may be measured using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters. (Altschul, S.F. et al. Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: A New Generation of Protein Database Search Programs, Nucleic Acid Res. 25: 3389-3402 (1997). For example, the homologous polynucleotides may comprise a coding sequence which is a naturally occurring allelic variant of one of the coding sequences described herein. Such allelic variants may have a substitution, deletion or addition of one or more nucleotides when compared to the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 or the nucleotide sequences complementary thereto.

Additionally, the above procedures may be used to isolate homologous coding nucleic acids which encode polypeptides having at least 99%, 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 70%, at least 60%, at least 50%, at least 40% or at least 25% amino acid identity or similarity to a polypeptide comprising the sequence of one of SEQ ID NOs: 42398-78581 or to a polypeptide whose expression is inhibited by a nucleic acid of one of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 or fragments comprising at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, or 150 consecutive amino acids thereof as determined using the FASTA version 3.0t78 algorithm with the default parameters. Alternatively, protein identity or similarity may be identified using BLASTP with the default

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parameters, BLASTX with the default parameters, or TBLASTN with the default parameters. (Altschul, S.F. et al. Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: A New Generation of Protein Database Search Programs, Nucleic Acid Res. 25: 3389-3402 (1997).

Alternatively, homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids or homologous polypeptides may be identified by searching a database to identify sequences having a . desired level of nucleotide or amino acid sequence homology to a nucleic acid or polypeptide involved in proliferation or an antisense nucleic acid to a nucleic acid involved in microbial proliferation. A variety of such databases are available to those skilled in the art, including GenBank and GenSeq. In some embodiments, the databases are screened to identify nucleic acids with at least 97%, at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, or at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity to a nucleic acid required for proliferation, an antisense nucleic acid which inhibits proliferation, or a portion of a nucleic acid required for proliferation or a portion of an antisense nucleic acid which inhibits proliferation. For example, homologous coding sequences may be identified by using a database to identify nucleic acids homologous to one of SEQ ID Nos. 1-6213, homologous to fragments comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides thereof, nucleic acids homologous to one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, homologous to fragments comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of one of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, nucleic acids homologous to one of SEQ ID Nos. 1-6213, homologous to fragments comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides thereof or nucleic acids homologous to the sequences complementary to any of the preceding nucleic acids. In other embodiments, the databases are screened to identify polypeptides having at least 99%, 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 70%, at least 60%, at least 50%, at least 40% or at least 25% amino acid sequence identity or similarity to a polypeptide involved in proliferation or a portion thereof. For example, the database may be screened to identify polypeptides homologous to a polypeptide comprising one of SEQ ID NOs: 42398-78581, a polypeptide whose expression is inhibited by a nucleic acid of one of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 or homologous to fragments comprising at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, or 150 consecutive amino acids of any of the preceding polypeptides. In some embodiments, the database may be screened to identify homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids or homologous polypeptides from cells or microorganisms other than the Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis,

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Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis species from which they were obtained. For example the database may be screened to identify homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids or homologous polypeptides from microorganisms such as Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium. Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica. Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species, including coagulase negative Staphylococcus. In some embodiments, the homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous antisense nucleic acids, or homologous polypeptides are from an organism other than E. coli.

In another embodiment, gene expression arrays and microarrays can be employed. Gene expression arrays are high density arrays of DNA samples deposited at specific locations on a glass chip, nylon membrane, or the like. Such arrays can be used by researchers to quantify relative gene expression under different conditions. Gene expression arrays are used by researchers to help identify optimal drug targets, profile new compounds, and determine disease pathways. An example of this technology is found in U.S. Patent No. 5,807,522.

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It is possible to study the expression of all genes in the genome of a particular microbial organism using a single array. For example, the arrays may consist of 12 x 24 cm nylon filters containing PCR products corresponding to ORFs from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Moraxella catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis (including the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397) . 10 ngs of each PCR product are spotted every 1.5 mm on the filter. Single stranded labeled cDNAs are prepared for hybridization to the array (no second strand synthesis or amplification step is done) and placed in contact with the filter. Thus the labeled cDNAs are of "antisense" orientation. Quantitative analysis is done by phosphorimager.

Hybridization of cDNA made from a sample of total cell mRNA to such an array followed by detection of binding by one or more of various techniques known to those in the art results in a signal at each location on the array to which cDNA hybridized. The intensity of the hybridization signal obtained at each location in the array thus reflects the amount of mRNA for that specific gene that was present in the sample. Comparing the results obtained for mRNA isolated from cells grown under different conditions thus allows for a comparison of the relative amount of expression of each individual gene during growth under the different conditions.

Gene expression arrays may be used to analyze the total mRNA expression pattern at various time points after induction of an antisense nucleic acid complementary to a proliferation-required gene. Analysis of the expression pattern indicated by hybridization to the array provides information on other genes whose expression is influenced by antisense expression. For example, if the antisense is complementary to a gene for ribosomal protein L7/L12 in the 50S subunit, levels of other mRNAs may be observed to increase, decrease or stay the same following expression of antisense to the L7/L12 gene. If the antisense is complementary to a different 50S subunit ribosomal protein mRNA (e.g. L25), a different mRNA expression pattern may result. Thus, the mRNA expression pattern observed following expression of an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a proliferation required gene may identify other proliferation-required nucleic acids. In addition, the mRNA expression patterns observed when the

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bacteria are exposed to candidate drug compounds or known antibiotics may be compared to those observed with antisense nucleic acids comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a proliferation-required nucleic acid. If the mRNA expression pattern observed with the candidate drug compound is similar to that observed with the antisense nucleic acid, the drug compound may be a promising therapeutic candidate. Thus, the assay would be useful in assisting in the selection of promising candidate drug compounds for use in drug development.

In cases where the source of nucleic acid deposited on the array and the source of the nucleic acid being hybridized to the array are from two different cells or microorganisms, gene expression arrays can identify homologous nucleic acids in the two cells or microorganisms.

The present invention also contemplates additional methods for screening other microorganisms for proliferation-required genes. In one aspect of this embodiment, an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to the proliferation-required sequences from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis. Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis, or a portion thereof, is transcribed in an antisense orientation in such a way as to alter the level or activity of a nucleic acid required for proliferation of an autologous or heterologous cell or microorganism. For example, the antisense nucleic acid may be a homologous antisense nucleic acid such as an antisense nucleic acid homologous to the nucleotide sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence homologous to one of SEQ ID Nos.: 1-6213, or an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a portion of any of the preceding nucleic acids. The cell or microorganism transcribing the homologous antisense nucleic acid may be used in a cell-based assay, such as those described herein, to identify candidate antibiotic compounds. In another embodiment, the conserved portions of nucleotide sequences identified as proliferation-required can be used to generate degenerate primers for use in the polymerase chain reaction (PCR). The PCR technique is well known in the art. The successful production of a PCR product using degenerate primers generated from the nucleotide sequences identified herein indicates the presence of a homologous gene sequence in the species being screened.

This homologous gene is then isolated, expressed, and used as a target for candidate antibiotic compounds. In another aspect of this embodiment, the homologous gene (for example a homologous coding nucleic acid) thus identified, or a portion thereof, is transcribed in an autologous cell or microorganism or in a heterologous cell or microorganism in an antisense orientation in such a way as to alter the level or activity of a homologous gene required for proliferation in the autologous or heterologous cell or microorganism. Alternatively, a homologous antisense nucleic acid may be transcribed in an autologous or heterologous cell or microorganism in such a way as to alter the level or activity of a gene product required for proliferation in the autologous or heterologous cell or microorganism.

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The nucleic acids homologous to the genes required for the proliferation of Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis or the sequences complementary thereto may be used to identify homologous coding nucleic acids or homologous antisense nucleic acids from cells or microorganisms other than Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis to inhibit the proliferation of cells or microorganisms other than

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Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis by inhibiting the activity or reducing the amount of the identified homologous coding nucleic acid or homologous polypeptide in the cell or microorganism other than Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis or to identify compounds which inhibit the growth of cells or microorganisms other than Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes. Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus

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mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis as described below. For example, the nucleic acids homologous to proliferation-required genes from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis or the sequences complementary thereto may be used to identify compounds which inhibit the growth of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica,

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Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species. In some embodiments of the present invention, the nucleic acids homologous to proliferation-required sequences from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis (including nucleic acids homologous to one of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397) or the sequences complementary thereto (including nucleic acids homologous to one of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213) are used to identify proliferation-required sequences in an organism other than E. coli.

In another embodiment of the present invention, antisense nucleic acids complementary to the sequences identified as required for proliferation or portions thereof (including antisense nucleic acids comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 or portions thereof, such as the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213) are transferred to vectors capable of function within a species other than the species from which the sequences were obtained. For example, the vector may be functional in Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori,

Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species. In some embodiments of the present invention, the vector may be functional in an organism other than E. coli. As would be appreciated by one of ordinary skill in the art, vectors may contain certain elements that are species specific. These elements can include promoter sequences, operator sequences, repressor genes, origins of replication, ribosomal binding sequences, termination sequences, and others. To use the antisense nucleic acids, one of ordinary skill in the art would know to use standard molecular biology techniques to isolate vectors containing the sequences of interest from cultured bacterial cells, isolate and purify those sequences, and subclone those sequences into a vector adapted for use in the species of bacteria to be screened.

Vectors for a variety of other species are known in the art. For example, numerous vectors which function in *E. coli* are known in the art. Also, Pla et al. have reported an expression vector that is functional in a number of relevant hosts including: *Salmonella typhimurium*, *Pseudomonas putida*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. *J. Bacteriol.* 172(8):4448-55 (1990). Brunschwig and Darzins (Gene (1992) 111:35-4, described a shuttle expression vector for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Vectors useful for the production of stabilized mRNA having an increased lifetime (including antisense RNA) in Gram negative organisms are described in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/343,512, filed December 21, 2001. Similarly many examples exist of expression vectors that are freely transferable among various Gram positive microorganisms. Expression vectors for *Enterococcus faecalis* may be engineered by incorporating suitable promoters into a pAK80 backbone (Israelsen, H., S. M. Madsen, A. Vrang, E. B. Hansen and E. Johansen. 1995. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 61:2540-2547. A number of vectors useful for nucleic acid expression (including antisense nucleic acid expression) in *Enterococcus faecalis, Staphylococcus areus* as well as other Gram positive organisms are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393, filed December 21, 2001.

Following the subcloning of the antisense nucleic acids complementary to proliferation-required sequences from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis,

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Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis or portions thereof into a vector functional in a second cell or microorganism of interest (i.e. a cell or microorganism other than the one from which the identified nucleic acids were obtained), the antisense nucleic acids are conditionally transcribed to test for bacterial growth inhibition. The nucleotide sequences of the nucleic acids from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis that, when transcribed, inhibit growth of the second cell or microorganism are compared to the known genomic sequence of the second cell or microorganism to identify the homologous gene from the second organism. If the homologous sequence from the second cell or microorganism is not known, it may be identified and isolated by hybridization to the proliferation-required Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii. Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Mycobacterium bovis, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio

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cholerae or Yersinia pestis sequence of interest or by amplification using PCR primers based on the proliferation-required nucleotide sequence of interest as described above. In this way, sequences which may be required for the proliferation of the second cell or microorganism may be identified. For example, the second microorganism may be Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species. In some embodiments of the present invention, the second microorganism is an organism other than E. coli.

The homologous nucleic acid sequences from the second cell or microorganism which are identified as described above may then be operably linked to a promoter, such as an inducible promoter, in an antisense orientation and introduced into the second cell or microorganism. The techniques described herein for identifying Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus

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mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis genes required for proliferation may thus be employed to determine whether the identified nucleotide sequences from a second cell or microorganism inhibit the proliferation of the second cell or microorganism. For example, the second microorganism may be Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Klebsiella pneumoniae, capsulatum, Histoplasma Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium avium, Moraxella catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species. In some embodiments of the present invention, the second microorganism may be an organism other than E. coli.

Antisense nucleic acids required for the proliferation of microorganisms other than Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium

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tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis or the genes corresponding thereto, may also be hybridized to a microarray containing the Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis (including the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397) to gauge the homology between the Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria avium, Mycobacterium Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium bovis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis sequences and the proliferation-required nucleic acids from other cells For example, the proliferation-required nucleic acid may be from or microorganisms. Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida

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guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Klebsiella pneumoniae, capsulatum, Histoplasma catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, monocytogenes, Moraxella Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species. In some embodiments of the present invention, the proliferation-required nucleotide sequences from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis or homologous nucleic acids are used to identify proliferation-required sequences in an organism other than E. coli. In some embodiments of the present invention, the proliferation-required sequences may be from an organism other than E. coli. The proliferation-required nucleic acids from a cell or microorganism other than Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium, Acinetobacter baumannii, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Chlamydia pneumoniae,

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Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecium, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Pasteurella multocida, Proteus mirabilis, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae or Yersinia pestis may be hybridized to the array under a variety of conditions which permit hybridization to occur when the probe has different levels of homology to the nucleotide sequence on the microarray. This would provide an indication of homology across the cells or microorganisms as well as clues to other possible essential genes in these cells or microorganisms.

In some embodiments of the present invention, the essential gene products described herein are used in methods of identifying a target on which a compound that inhibits cellular proliferation Such methods are described in the U.S. Patent Application entitled METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING THE TARGET OF A COMPOUND WHICH INHIBITS CELLULAR PROLIFERATION, filed February 8, 2002. As employed herein, some embodiments of methods used to identify a target on which a compound that inhibits cellular proliferation acts utilize collections or cultures of strains comprising strains which either overexpress a different gene product which is required for cellular proliferation (such as the gene products described herein) or underexpress a different gene product (such as the gene products described herein) which is required for cellular proliferation (i.e. at least some of the strains in the culture overexpress or underexpress a gene product required for cellular proliferation). In some embodiments, the present invention uses collections or cultures of strains comprising both strains which overexpress gene products required for cellular proliferation and strains which underexpress the same gene products required for cellular proliferation. Preferably, each of the strains present in the culture or collection either overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product which is required for cellular proliferation (i.e. all of the strains in the culture overexpress or underexpress a gene product required for cellular proliferation). However, in some embodiments, the culture or collection may include one or more strains which do not overexpress or underexpress a gene product which is required for proliferation. The gene product which is overexpressed or underexpressed in each strain may be any gene product which is required for cellular prolifereation, including a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a homologous

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antisense nucleic acid, a gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid, and a gene product comprising a homologous polypeptide.

As used herein the term "culture" refers to a plurality of strains growing in a single aliquot of a liquid growth medium and the term "collection" refers to a plurality of strains each of which is growing in a separate aliquot of liquid growth medium or a different location on a solid growth medium.

In some embodiments, if desired, one or more of the strains in the culture or collection of strains may overexpress or underexpress more than one gene product described herein which is required for cellular proliferation. In this embodiment, the gene products which are overexpressed or underexpressed in one or more of the strains may be functionally related or functionally unrelated. This may facilitate the identification of compounds when two or more gene products share similar functions in the cell or where the cell has multiple biochemical pathways which lead to a particular end product.

Alternatively, if the gene product described herein to be overexpressed or underexpressed is encoded by a gene which is part of an operon containing a plurality of genes, the desired gene may be overexpressed or underexpressed while the remaining genes in the operon are expressed at levels where they do not impact the ability of the cell to grow in the presence of a particular compound. For example, the desired gene may be placed under the control of a regulatable promoter, a transcriptional terminator may be placed 3' of the desired gene and a promoter, preferably a constitutive promoter, may be placed 3' of the transcriptional terminator and 5' of the remaining genes in the operon.

In some embodiments, the culture or collection of strains may comprise a strain which overexpresses or underexpresses a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213. In some embodiments, the culture or collection of strains may comprise strains which in aggregate overexpress or underexpress at least two gene products whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 1-6213, at least 10 gene products whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 1-6213, at least 20 gene products whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 1-6213, at least 30 gene products whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 1-6213, at least 50 gene products whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 1-6213, at least 100 gene products whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 1-6213, at least 300 gene products whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOS.: 1-6213 or more than 300 gene products whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOS.: 1-6213, wherein each strain in the culture or collection of strains overexpresses or underexpresses a single gene

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product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213. Alternatively, if desired, one or more of the strains in the culture or collection of strains may overexpress or underexpress more than one gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213.

In other embodiments, the culture or collection of strains may comprise a strain which overexpresses or underexpresses a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397. In some embodiments, the culture or collection of strains may comprise strains which in aggregate overexpress or underexpress at least two gene products encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, at least 10 gene products encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, at least 20 gene products encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, at least 30 gene products encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, at least 50 gene products encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, at least 100 gene products encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, at least 300 gene products encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 or more than 300 gene products encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, wherein each strain in the culture or collection of strains overexpresses or underexpresses a single gene product encoded by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 6214-42397. Alternatively, if desired, one or more strains in the culture or collection of strains may overexpress or underexpress more than one gene product encoded by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 6214-42397.

In some embodiments the culture or collection of strains comprises a strain in which a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed. In some embodiments, the culture or collection of strains may comprise strains which in aggregate overexpress or underexpress at least two gene products comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581, at least 10 gene products comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581, at least 20 gene products comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581, at least 30 gene products comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581, at least 50 gene products comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581, at least 50 gene products comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581, at least 300 gene products comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581, at least 300 gene

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products comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 or more than 300 gene products comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581, wherein each strain in the culture or collection of strains overexpresses or underexpresses a single gene product selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 42938-78581. Alternatively, if desired one or more of the strains in the culture or collection of strains may overexpress or underexpress more than one gene product selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 42938-78581.

In other embodiments, the culture or collection of strains comprises a strain in which at least one of the gene products encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid as defined above is overexpressed or underexpressed. In some embodiments, the culture or collection of strains may comprise strains which in aggregate overexpress or underexpress at least 2, at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 50, at least 100, at least 300 or more than 300 gene products encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid as defined above. If desired the culture or collection of strains may comprise one or more strains which overexpress or underexpress more than one gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid. In further embodiments, the culture or collection of strains comprises a strain in which at least one, at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 50, at least 100, at least 300 or more than 300 homologous polypeptides as defined above is overexpressed or underexpressed. If desired the culture or collection of strains may comprise one or more strains which overexpress or underexpress more than one homologous polypeptide.

For example, in some embodiments, the culture or collection of strains comprises a strain in which at least one gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed, wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses one gene product. In some

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embodiments, the culture or collection of strains may comprise strains in which in aggregate at least 2, at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 50, at least 100, at least 300, or more than 300 gene products selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213 is overexpressed or underexpressed, wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses one gene product.

If desired, one or more of the strains in the culture or collection of strains may overexpress or underexpress more than one gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleic acid encoding a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213, a gene product having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 with the default parameters to a gene product whose expression is inhibited by an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under stringent conditions, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 under moderate conditions, and a gene product whose activity may be complemented by the gene product whose activity is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-6213.

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In further embodiments, the culture or collection of strains comprises a strain in which at least one gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed or underexpressed, wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses one gene product. In some embodiments, the culture or collection of strains comprises a strain or a group of strains in which in aggregate at least 2, at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 50, at least 100, at least 300, or more than 300 gene products encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions is overexpressed or underexpressed, wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses one gene product.

If desired, one or more of the strains in the culture or collection of strains may overexpress or underexpress more than one gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% nucleotide sequence identity as determined using BLASTN version 2.0 with the default parameters to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under stringent conditions, and a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS.: 6214-42397 under moderate conditions.

In additional embodiments, the culture or collection of strains comprises a strain in which at least one gene product comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed, wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses one gene product. In some embodiments, the culture or collection of strains comprises a strain or a group of strains in which in aggregate at least 2, at least 10, at least 20, at

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least 30, at least 50, at least 100, at least 300, or more than 300 gene products comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581 is overexpressed or underexpressed, wherein each strain overexpresses or underexpresses one gene product.

If desired, one or more of the strains in the culture or collection of strains may overexpress or underexpress more than one polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide having at least 25% amino acid identity as determined using FASTA version 3.0t78 to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42938-78581 and a polypeptide whose activity may be complemented by a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 42938-78581.

The methods of the present invention may be used to identify the targets of compounds which inhibit the proliferation of any desired cell or organism. In some embodiments, these methods are employed to identify the targets of compounds which inhibit the proliferation of bacteria, fungi, or protozoans. In further embodiments, these methods are employed to identify the targets of compounds which inhibit the growth of an organism selected from the group consisting of Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella Klebsiella pneumoniae, pneumophila, Listeria Histoplasma capsulatum, catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium Moraxella monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

Overexpression may be obtained using a variety of techniques familiar to those skilled in the art. For example, overexpression may be obtained by operably linking a gene encoding a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a homologous antisense nucleic acid, a gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid, or a gene product comprising a homologous polypeptide to a promoter which transcribes a higher level of mRNA encoding or comprising the gene product than does a wild type cell.

A variety of promoters may be used to overexpress the gene product described herein, including a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a homologous antisense nucleic acid, a gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid, and a gene product comprising a homologous polypeptide. The promoters used to overexpress the gene product may be relatively strong promoters, promoters which possess a moderate level of activity, or relatively weak promoters and may be either constitutive or regulatable promoters. In some embodiments, several strains, each of which overexpresses the gene product to a different extent, may be used in order to optimize the degree of overexpression of the gene product.

In some embodiments, each of the gene products required for proliferation may be placed under the control of several different promoters of varying strengths to create several different strains which express the gene product at varying levels. The level of expression of the gene product in each of the strains is compared to that in wild type cells in order to identify a promoter which provides a desired level of expression relative to wild type cells (i.e. a desired level of overexpression or underexpression). The strain having the desired level of expression is then included in a culture or collection of strains to be contacted with a test compound as discussed below. Examples of suites of regulatable promoters having varying strengths that are useful for the expression of gene products at varying levels are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393, filed on December 21, 2002.

The promoter is selected to be active in the type of cell in which the gene product is to be expressed. For example, for overexpression of the gene product in mammalian cells, the gene encoding the gene product may be operably linked to promoters such as the SV40 promoter, the metallothionine promoter, the MMTV promoter, the RSV promoter, the tetP promoter, the adenovirus major late promoter or other promoters known to those skilled in the art. In yeast, the gene encoding the gene product may be operably linked to promoters such as the CYC1, ADHI,

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ADHII, GAL1, GAL10, PHO5, PGK or other promoters used in the art. Similarly, in bacteria, the gene encoding the gene product may be operably linked to the , SP6, T3, trc promoter, lac promoter, temperature regulated lambda promoters, the Bacillus aprE and nprE promoters (U.S. Patent No. 5,387,521), the bacteriophage lambda P_L and P_R promoters (Renaut, et al., (1981) Gene 15: 81) the trp promoter (Russell, et al., (1982) Gene 20: 23), the tac promoter (de Boer et al., (1983) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 80: 21), B. subtilis alkaline protease promoter (Stahl et al, (1984) J. Bacteriol. 158, 411-418) alpha amylase promoter of B. subtilis (Yang et al., (1983) Nucleic Acids Res. 11, 237-249) or B. amyloliquefaciens (Tarkinen, et al, (1983) J. Biol. Chem. 258, 1007-1013), the neutral protease promoter from B. subtilis (Yang et al, (1984) J. Bacteriol. 160, 15-21), T7 RNA polymerase promoter (Studier and Moffatt (1986) J Mol Biol. 189(1):113-30), B. subtilis xyl promoter or mutant tetR promoter active in bacilli (Geissendorfer & Hillen (1990) Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol. 33:657-663), Staphylococcal enterotoxin D promoter (Zhang and Stewart (2000) J. Bacteriol. 182(8):2321-5), cap8 operon promoter from Staphylococcus aureus (Ouyang et al., (1999) J. Bacteriol. 181(8):2492-500), the lactococcal nisA promoter (Eichenbaum (1998) Appl Environ Microbiol. 64(8):2763-9), promoters from in Acholeplasma laidlawii (Jarhede 15 et al., (1995) Microbiology 141 (Pt 9):2071-9), porA promoter of Neisseria meningitidis (Sawaya et al., (1999) Gene 233:49-57), the fbpA promoter of Neisseria gonorrhoeae (Forng et al., (1997) J. Bacteriol. 179:3047-3052), Corynebacterium diphtheriae toxin gene promoter (Schmitt and Holmes (1994) J. Bacteriol. 176(4):1141-9), the hasA operon promoter from Group A Streptococci (Alberti et al., (1998) Mol Microbiol 28(2):343-53), the rpoS promoter of Pseudomonas putida (Kojic and 20 Venturi (2001) J. Bacteriol. 183:3712-3720), the Acinetobacter baumannii phosphate regulated ppk gene promoter (Gavigan et al., Microbiology 145:2931-7 (1999)); the Acinetobacter baumannii adhC1 promoter which is induced under iron limitation and repressed when the cells are cultured in the presence of free inorganic iron (Echenique et al., Microbiology 147:2805-15 (2001)); the flaB promoter of pGK12 active in Borrelia burgdorferi (Sartakova et al., Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 25 97(9):4850-5 (2000)); the use of Ptrc promoter results in strong inducer-dependent expression in Burkholderia spp (Santos et al., FEMS Microbiol Lett 195(1):91-6 (2001)); the iron regulated sodA promoter of Bordetella pertussis (Graeff-Wohlleben et al., J Bacteriol 179(7):2194-201 (1997)); UV-inducible ben and uviAB promoters in Clostrdia spp (Garnier and Cole Mol Microbiol 2(5):607-14 (1988)); the heat-inducible clpB promoter of Campylobacter jejuni (Thies et al., Gene 30 230(1):61-7 (1999)); promoters carrying bacteriophage C1 operator sites in Klebsiella pneumoniae (Schoefield et al, J Bacteriol 183(23):6947-50 (2001)); the Proteus mirabilis ureR promoter (Poore et al., J Bacteriol 183(15):4526-35 (2001)); and the heat-inducible groESL promoter in Listeria monocytogenes, and the IPTG inducible promoter in pLEX5BA (Krause et al., J. Mol. Biol. 274: 365 (1997). In another embodiment, which may be useful in Staphylococcus aureus, the promoter 35 is a novel inducible promoter system, XylT5, comprising a modified T5 promoter fused to the xylO operator from the xylA promoter of Staphylococcus aureus. This promoter is described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393. In another embodiment the promoter may be a two-

component inducible promoter system in which the T7 RNA polymerase gene is integrated on the chromosome and is regulated by *lac*UV5/ *lac*O (Brunschwig, E. and Darzins, A. 1992. Gene 111:35-41, and a T7 gene 10 promoter, which is transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase, is fused with a *lac*O operator. In another embodiment the promoter may be the promoters from the plasmids pEPEF3 or pEPEF14, which harbor xylose inducible promoters functional in *E. faecalis*, described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/032,393. Other promoters which may be used are familiar to those skilled in the art. In fungi, the gene encoding the gene product may be operably linked to the CaACT1 promoter (Morschhauser, Mol. Gen. Genet. 257: 412-420 (1998), or other promoters familiar to those skilled in the art. It will appreciated that other combinations of organisms and promoters may also be used in the present invention.

In some embodiments, overexpression may be achieved by using homologous recombination to replace the natural promoter which drives expression of the proliferation-required genes described herein with a regulatable promoter. For example, the methods described in U.S. Patent Application 09/948,993 may be used to place the gene required for proliferation under the control of a regulatable promoter. Examples of gene products, which are encoded by genes that can be overexpressed by regulatable promoters introduced by such promoter replacement methods include a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a homologous antisense nucleic acid, a gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid, and a gene product comprising a homologous polypeptide.

Briefly, in some embodiments of these methods in which natural promoters are replaced by regulatable promoters, the cells may be haploid, such as bacterial cells. Regulatable promoters that are useful for promoter replacement in bacterial cells include, but are not limited to, the promoters described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393 filed December 21, 2001. A linear promoter replacement cassette comprising a regulatable promoter flanked by nucleotide sequences having homology to the natural promoter is introduced into the cell. In some embodiments, the cassette also comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a selectable marker or a marker whose expression is readily identified. The cassette may be a double stranded nucleic acid or a single stranded nucleic acid as described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/948,993. Upon homologous recombination, the natural promoter is replaced with the regulatable promoter, leaving the gene required for proliferation under the control of the regulatable promoter. Strains in which the gene required for proliferation is under control of the regulatable promoter are grown under conditions in which the regulatable promoter provides a level of the proliferation-required gene product which is above the level in a wild type cell. For example, the strains may be grown in the

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presence of an inducer which induces expression from the regulatable promoter, or under conditions in which the action of a repressor on the regulatable promoter is reduced or eliminated.

Alternatively, rather than replacing the native promoters of each of the genes encoding a proliferation-required gene product described herein with a single desired replacement promoter, a plurality of replacement promoters which provide desired expression levels for the gene products to be overexpressed or underexpressed are used. The method is performed as described above except that rather than using a single labeled primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence within the single replacement promoter, a plurality of labeled primers complementary to suitable nucleotide sequences in the plurality of replacement promoters are used.

Alternatively, in embodiments in which the level or activity of proliferation-required gene products described herein is reduced by transcribing an antisense nucleic acid complementary to at least a portion of the genes encoding such gene products, the strains may be designed such that the length of the nucleotide sequence encoding the antisense nucleic acid is different for each gene. Amplification reactions are performed as described above using primers at each end of the gene encoding the antisense nucleic acid such that the amplification product corresponding to each gene has a unique length or a dye which allows it to be distinguished from other amplification products of the same length. Alternatively, the lengths of the nucleotide sequences encoding the antisense nucleic acids may not be unique for each gene, but the primers used in the amplification reaction may be selected such that the length of the amplification product corresponding to each gene is unique.

In another embodiment, the native promoters may be replaced with promoters which include therein or adjacent thereto a unique nucleotide sequence which is distinct from that present in the other replacement promoters in the strains in the culture or collection of strains. In this embodiment, each promoter includes or has adjacent thereto a unique "tag" which may be used to identify strains which proliferate more rapidly or more slowly in the culture or collection of strains. The tag may be detected using hybridization based methods or amplification based methods, including the amplification method which generates amplification products having a unique size for each proliferation required gene described above.

Alternatively, the native promoter which directs the transcription of the proliferation-required genes described herein may rendered regulatable by inserting a regulatory element into the chromosome of the cell via homologous recombination such that the regulatory element regulates the level of transcription from the promoter. Examples of gene products, which are encoded by genes that have promoters which can be rendered regulatable by regulatory elements inserted by such methods include a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence

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level is inhibited by a homologous antisense nucleic acid, a gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid, and a gene product comprising a homologous polypeptide.

A variety of regulatory elements may be used to regulate the expression of essential gene products described herein. The regulatory element may be an operator which is recognized by a repressor (e.g. lac, tet, araBAD repressors) or a nucleotide sequence which is recognized by a transcriptional activator. In some embodiments, the regulatory element may be a transcriptional terminator, a nucleotide sequence which introduces a bend in the DNA or an upstream activating sequence. A linear regulatory element insertion cassette comprising a regulatory element flanked by nucleotide sequences having homology to the natural promoter is introduced into the cell. In some embodiments, the cassette also comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a selectable marker or a marker whose expression is readily identified. The cassette may be a double stranded nucleic acid or a single stranded nucleic acid as described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number Upon homologous recombination, the regulatory element is inserted into the 09/948,993. chromosome, leaving the gene required for proliferation under the control of the regulatory element. Strains in which the gene required for proliferation is under control of the regulatory element are grown under conditions in which the regulatable promoter provides a level of the proliferation-required gene product which is above the level in a wild type cell. For example, the strains may be grown in the presence of an inducer which induces expression from the promoter, or under conditions in which the action of a repressor on the promoter is reduced or eliminated. It will be appreciated that the amplification method which generates amplification products having a unique size for each proliferation required gene may be used to detect strains which are overrepresented or underrepresented in the culture or collection of strains. For example, if desired, primers complementary to a nucleotide sequence within the regulatory element may be used in the amplification reaction.

The promoter replacement cassette or regulatory element insertion cassette may be a double stranded nucleic acid, such as an amplicon generated through PCR or other amplification methods, or a single stranded nucleic acid, such as an oligonucleotide. For example, single stranded nucleic acids may be introduced into the chromosome using the methods described in Ellis et al., PNAS 98: 6742-6746, 2001.

In some embodiments, the cell into which the promoter replacement cassette or regulatory element insertion cassette is introduced has an enhanced frequency of recombination. For example, the cells may lack or have a reduced level or activity of one or more exonucleases which would ordinarily degrade the DNA to be inserted into the chromosome. In further embodiments, the cells may both lack or have reduced levels of exonucleases and express or overexpress proteins involved in mediating homologous recombination. For example, if the methods are performed in *Escherichia coli* or other enteric prokaryotes, cells in which the activity of exonuclease V of the RecBCD recombination pathway, which degrades linear nucleic acids, has been reduced or eliminated, such as recB, recC, or recD mutants may be used. In some embodiments, the cells have

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mutations in more than one of the recB, recC, and recD genes which enhance the frequency of homologous recombination. For example the cells may have mutations in both the recB and recC genes.

The promoter replacement or regulatory element insertion methods may also be performed in *Escherichia coli* cells in which the activity of the RecET recombinase system of the Rac prophage has been activated, such as cells which carry an sbcA mutation. The RecE gene of the rac prophage encodes ExoVIII a 5'-3' exonuclease, while the RecT gene of the Rac prophage encodes a single stranded DNA binding protein which facilitates renaturation and D-loop formation. Thus, the gene products of the RecE and RecT genes or proteins with analogous functions facilitate homologous recombination. The RecE and RecT genes lie in the same operon but are normally not expressed. However, sbcA mutants activate the expression the RecE and RecT genes. In some embodiments, the methods may be performed in cells which carry mutations in the recB and recC genes as well as the sbcA mutation. The RecE and RecT gene may be constitutively or conditionally expressed. For example, the methods may be performed in *E. coli* strain JC8679, which carries the sbcA23, recB21 and recC22 mutations.

In some embodiments, the methods may be performed in *Escherichia coli* cells in which recombination via the RecF pathway has been enhanced, such as cells which carry an sbcB mutation.

It will be appreciated that the RecE and RecT gene products, or proteins with analogous functions may be conditionally or constitutively expressed in prokaryotic organisms other than E. coli. In some embodiments, these proteins may be conditionally or constitutively expressed in Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Listeria Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, bovis, Mycobacterium avium. Mycobacterium monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei,

Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species. For example, plasmids encoding these gene products may be introduced into the organism. If desired, the coding sequences encoding these gene products may be optimized to reflect the codon preferences of the organism in which they are to be expressed. Similarly, in some embodiments, the organism may contain mutations analogous to the recB, recC, recD, sbcA or sbcB mutations which enhance the frequency of homologous recombination.

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In further embodiments, the promoter replacement or regulatory element insertion methods may be conducted in cells which utilize the Red system of bacteriophage lambda (λ) or analogous systems from other phages to enhance the frequency of homologous recombination. The Red system contains three genes, (γ , β and *exo* whose products are the Gam, Bet and Exo proteins (see Ellis et al. PNAS 98:6742-6746, 2001. The Gam protein inhibits the RecBCD exonuclease V, thus permitting Beta and Exo to gain access to the ends of the DNA to be integrated and facilitating homologous recombination. The Beta protein is a single stranded DNA binding protein that promotes the annealing of a single stranded nucleic acid to a complementary single stranded nucleic acid and mediates strand exchange. The Exo protein is a double-stranded DNA dependent 5'-3' exonuclease that leaves 3' overhangs that can act as substrates for recombination. Thus, constitutive or conditional expression of the λ Red proteins or proteins having analogous functions facilitates homologous recombination.

It will be appreciated that the λ Beta, Gam and Exo proteins, or proteins with analogous functions may be expressed constitutively or conditionally in prokaryotic organisms other than E. coli. In some embodiments, these proteins may be conditionally or constitutively expressed in Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria Histoplasma eapsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Moraxella catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris,

Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species. For example, plasmids encoding these gene products may be introduced into the organism. If desired, the coding sequences encoding these gene products may be optimized to reflect the codon preferences of the organism in which they are to be expressed.

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In some embodiments, the cells may have an increased frequency of homologous recombination as a result of more than one of the aforementioned characteristics. In some embodiments, the enhanced frequency of recombination may be a conditional characteristic of the cells which depends on the culture conditions in which the cells are grown. For example, in some embodiments, expression of the λ Red Gam, Exo, and Beta proteins or recE and recT proteins may be regulated. Thus, the cells may have an increased frequency of homologous recombination as a result of any combination of the aforementioned characteristics. For example, in some embodiments, the cell may carry the sbcA and recBC mutations.

In some embodiments, a linear double stranded DNA to be inserted into the chromosome of the organism is introduced into an organism constitutively or conditionally expressing the recE and recT or the λ Beta, Gam and Exo proteins or proteins with analogous functions as described above. In some embodiments, the organism may be Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Histoplasma capsulatum, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, Listeria monocytogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei,

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Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species. In some embodiments, the double stranded DNA may be introduced into an organism having the recBC and sbcA mutations or analogous mutations.

In other embodiments, a single stranded DNA to be inserted into the chromosome of the organism is introduced into an organism expressing the λ Beta protein or a protein with an analogous function. In some embodiments the single stranded DNA is introduced into an organism expressing both the λ Beta and Gam proteins or proteins with analogous functions. In further embodiments, the single stranded DNA is introduced into an organism expressing the λ Beta, Gam and Exo proteins or proteins with analogous functions. The λ proteins or analogous proteins may be expressed constitutively or conditionally. In some embodiments, the organism may be Acinetobacter baumannii, Anaplasma marginale, Aspergillus fumigatus, Bacillus anthracis, Bacteroides fragilis, Bordetella pertussis, Borrelia burgdorferi, Burkholderia cepacia, Burkholderia fungorum, Burkholderia mallei, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida albicans, Candida glabrata (also called Torulopsis glabrata), Candida tropicalis, Candida parapsilosis, Candida guilliermondii, Candida krusei, Candida kefyr (also called Candida pseudotropicalis), Candida dubliniensis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Clostridium acetobutylicum, Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium difficile, Clostridium perfringens, Coccidioides immitis, Corynebacterium diptheriae, Cryptococcus neoformans, Enterobacter cloacae, Enterococcus faecalis, Enterococcus faecium, Escherichia coli, Haemophilus influenzae, Helicobacter pylori, Listeria Klebsiella pneumoniae, Legionella pneumophila, capsulatum, Histoplasma bovis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium Moraxella catarrhalis, monocytogenes, Mycobacterium leprae, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycoplasma genitalium, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Neisseria meningitidis, Nocardia asteroides, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, Pneumocystis carinii, Proteus mirabilis, Proteus vulgaris, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas putida, Pseudomonas syringae, Salmonella bongori, Salmonella cholerasuis, Salmonella enterica, Salmonella paratyphi, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella typhimurium, Shigella boydii, Shigella dysenteriae, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus haemolyticus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus pyogenes, Treponema pallidum, Ureaplasma urealyticum, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, Vibrio vulnificans, Yersinia enterocolitica, Yersinia pestis or any species falling within the genera of any of the above species.

In some embodiments, the linear nucleic acid may be introduced into the chromosome of a first organism which has an enhanced frequency of homologous recombination and then transferred to a second organism which is less amenable to direct application of the present methods. For example, the linear nucleic acid may be introduced into the chromosome of *E. coli* and transferred

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into a second organism via conjugation or transduction. After introduction into the second organism, the nucleic acid is inserted into the chromosome of the second organism via homologous recombination, thereby effectively transferring the regulatory element from the chromosome of the first organism into the corresponding location in the chromosome of the second organism.

In other embodiments, the cells may be diploid cells, such as fungal cells. In some embodiments, one copy of the gene encoding the proliferation-required gene product may be disrupted, rendering it inactive. In further embodiments, one copy of the gene encoding the proliferation-required gene product may be disrupted and the other copy of the gene encoding the proliferation-required gene product may be placed under the control of a regulatable promoter. Such strains may be generated by disrupting the first copy of the gene encoding the proliferation-required gene product by homologous recombination using a disruption cassette comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an expressible dominant selectable marker flanked on each side by nucleic acids homologous to the target sequence to be disrupted. The second copy of the gene encoding the proliferation-required gene product may be placed under the control of a regulatable promoter by homologous recombination using a promoter replacement cassette comprising a regulatable promoter flanked on each side by nucleic acids homologous to the natural promoter for the proliferation-required gene. The promoter replacement cassette may also include a nucleotide sequence encoding a selectable marker located 5' of the regulatable promoter but between the nucleic acids homologous to the natural promoter.

In other embodiments, overexpression may be achieved by operably linking a proliferationrequired gene product described herein to a desired promoter in a vector. The vector may be a vector which replicates extrachromosomally or a vector which integrates into the chromosome. For example, if the vector is to be used in bacterial cells, the vector may be a pBR322 based vector or a bacteriophage based vector such as P1 or lambda. If the vector is to be used in Saccharomyces cerevisae, it may be a vector based on the 2 micron circle or a vector incorporating a yeast chromosomal origin of replication. If the vector is to be used in mammalian cells, it may be a retroviral vector, SV40 based vector, a vector based on bovine papilloma virus, a vector based on adenovirus, or a vector based on adeno-associated virus. If the vector is to be used in Candida albicans it may be a vector comprising a promoter selected from the group consisting of the CaPCK1, MET25, MAL2, PHO5, GAL1,10, STE2 or STE3 promoters. In some embodiments, the vectors described in the following publications may be used: CIp10, an efficient and convenient integrating vector for Candida albicans. Murad et al., Yeast 16(4):325-7 (2000); Transforming vector pCPW7, Kvaal et al., : Infect Immun 67(12):6652-62 (1999); Transforming vector pCWOP16, Kvaal et al.,: Infect Immun 65(11):4668-75 (1997); double-ARS vector, pRM1, to be used for direct cloning in Ca by complementation of the histidine auxotrophy of strain CA9, Pla et al., Gene 165(1):115-20 (1995); pMK16, that was developed for the transformation of C. albicans and carries an ADE2 gene marker and a Candida autonomously replicating sequence (CARS) element promoting autonomous replication (cited in Sanglard and Fiechter Yeast 8(12):1065-75

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(1992); A plasmid vector (denoted pRC2312) was constructed, which replicates autonomously in Escherichia coli, Saccharomyces cerevisiae and Candida albicans. It contains LEU2, URA3 and an autonomously replicating sequence (ARS) from C. albicans, Cannon et al., Mol Gen Genet 235(2-3):453-7 (1992); Expression vector (CIp10-MAL2p) for use in Candida albicans has been constructed in which a gene of interest can be placed under the control of the CaMAL2 maltase promoter and stably integrated at the CaRP10 locus (Backen et al., Yeast 16(12):1121-9 (2000)); (Volker, R. S., A. Sonneborn, C. E. Leuker, and J. F. Ernst. 1997. Efg1p, an essential regulator of morphogenesis of the human pathogen Candida albicans, is a member of a conserved class of bHLH proteins regulating morphogenetic processes in fungi. EMBO 16:1982-1991.); and a C. albicans transformation vector containing the C. albicans URA3 gene, a Candida ARS sequence, and a portion of the Saccharomyces cerevisiae 2 microns circle containing the replication origin was constructed. Goshorn et al., Infect Immun 60(3):876-84 (1992). A variety of other vectors suitable for use in foregoing organisms or in any other organism in which the present invention is to be practiced are familiar to those skilled in the art.

Underexpression of a proliferation-required gene product described herein may be obtained in a variety of ways. For example, in one embodiment underexpression of the proliferationrequired gene product may be achieved by providing an agent, such as an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, an antisense nucleic acid comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid which encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid which encodes at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, or 150 consecutive amino acids of a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a homologous antisense nucleic acid, an antisense nucleic acid comprising at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of a homologous nucleic acid, a nucleic acid complementary to a homologous coding nucleic acid, a nucleic acid complementary to at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, or 500 consecutive nucleotides of a homologous coding nucleic acid, a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid which encodes a homologous polypeptide, or a nucleic acid complementary to a nucleic acid which encodes at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 75, 100, or 150 consecutive amino acids of a homologous polypeptide, which reduces the level or activity of the gene product within the cell. In one embodiment, the agent may comprise an antisense nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ

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ID NOs.: 1-6213 which is complementary to a nucleic acid encoding the proliferation-required gene product or complementary to a portion of a nucleic acid encoding the proliferation-required gene product.

In one example of antisense-inhibition-based underexpression, a nucleic acid which encodes the antisense nucleic acid may be operably linked to a regulatable promoter. When grown under appropriate conditions, such as media containing an inducer of transcription or an agent which alleviates repression of transcription, the antisense nucleic acid is expressed in the cell, thereby reducing the level or activity of the gene product within the cell. In some embodiments, the concentration of the inducer of transcription or the agent which alleviates repression of transcription may be varied to provide optimal results. Such methods have been described previously herein and in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/815,242, U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/492,709, U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/711,164, or U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/741,669.

Alternatively, underexpression of a proliferation-required gene product described herein may be achieved by constructing strains in which the expression of the gene product is under the control of a constitutive or regulatable promoter using methods such as those described above with respect to methods in which the gene product is overexpressed. To provide cells which underexpress the gene product, the cells are grown under conditions in which the gene product is expressed at a level lower than that of a wild type cell. For example, the cells may be grown under conditions in which a repressor reduces the level of transcription from the regulatable promoter.

In other embodiments, underexpression may be achieved by operably linking the gene required for proliferation to a desired promoter in a vector as described above with respect to embodiments in which gene products required for proliferation are overexpressed. In some embodiments, the vector may be present in cells in which the chromosomal copy or copies of the gene has been disrupted.

Examples of gene products, which are encoded by genes that can be underexpressed using methods such as those described above with respect to methods in which the gene product is overexpressed include a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a homologous antisense nucleic acid, a gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid, and a gene product comprising a homologous polypeptide.

One embodiment of the invention includes a method for identifying a gene product described herein on which a compound which inhibits the proliferation of an organism acts. The method employs a culture which comprises a mixture of strains of the organism. At least some of the strains in the culture overexpress a different gene product which is required for the proliferation

of the organism. Preferably, each of the strains in the culture overexpresses a different gene product which is required for proliferation of the organism (i.e. all of the strains in the culture overexpress a gene product which is required for proliferation of the organism). For example, the gene product which is overexpressed in each strain may be a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a homologous antisense nucleic acid, a gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid, and a gene product comprising a homologous polypeptide.

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Strains that overexpress the proliferation-required gene product may be obtained using the methods described above. The culture may comprise any number of strains which overexpress a gene product required for proliferation. For example the culture may comprise at least two strains, at least 10 strains, at least 20 strains, at least 30, strains, at least 50 strains, at least 100 strains, at least 300 strains or more than 300 strains which overexpress a gene product required for proliferation. In some embodiments, the culture may comprise strains which in aggregate overexpress all or most of the gene products required for proliferation of the organism.

The culture is contacted with a compound which inhibits proliferation of the organism. The compound may be a candidate drug compound obtained from any source. For example, the compound may be a compound generated using combinatorial chemistry, a compound from a natural product library, or an impure or partially purified compound, such as a compound in a partially purified natural extract. The culture is contacted with a sufficient concentration of the compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of the organism in the culture which do not overexpress the gene product on which the compound acts, such that strains which overexpress said gene product on which the compound acts proliferate more rapidly in the culture than strains which do not overexpress said gene product on which said compound acts. Thus, after a sufficient period of time, the strain which overexpresses the gene product on which the compound acts will be more prevalent in the culture than strains which do not overexpress the gene product on which the compound acts. In a preferred embodiment, the growth conditions and incubation period are selected so that only one strain, the strain overexpressing the target of the compound, is recovered from the culture. Thus, in one embodiment, a plurality of cultures containing a plurality of strains each of which overexpresses a different proliferation-required gene product may be grown in the presence of varying concentrations of the compound. In addition to varying the compound concentrations, in embodiments where expression of the proliferation-required gene product is under the control of a regulatable promoter, the plurality of cultures may be grown at varying concentrations of an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter, such as an inducer or an agent which reduces the effect of a repressor on transcription from the promoter. It

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will be appreciated, that the cultures may be grown in liquid medium in the presence of the compound whose target is to be identified (and where appropriate in the presence of an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter) or alternatively, a liquid culture comprising the strains which overexpress the proliferation-required gene products may be grown in the absence of the compound whose target is to be identified and then introduced onto a solid medium containing the compound (and, where appropriate, also containing an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter).

The identity of the overexpressed gene product which is the target of the compound may be determined using a variety of methods. For example, in some embodiments of the present invention, the nucleic acids present in the culture or collection of strains which was contacted with the compound may be compared to the nucleic acids present in a control culture or collection of strains which was not contacted with the compound to identify nucleic acids which are overrepresented in the culture or collection of strains contacted with the test compound relative to the control culture or collection of strains. Alternatively, in some embodiments, the nucleic acids present in a culture or collection of strains contacted with the test compound may be analyzed to identify those nucleic acids which are present without comparison to a control culture or collection of strains.

In some embodiments, the strains which proliferated more rapidly in the culture or collection of strains, i.e. strains having an enhanced ability to proliferate in the presence of a test compound relative to other strains in the culture or collection of strains, are identified as follows. Amplification products which are correlated with each of the overexpressed genes and which are distinguishable from one another are obtained from a culture or collection grown in the presence of a test compound. The amplification products are distinguished from one another to determine whether a particular amplification product is overrepresented in the culture or collection of strains. In some embodiments, the amplification products corresponding to each of the gene products have lengths which permit them to be distinguished from one another. In another embodiment, one or more of the amplification products have similar or identical lengths but are distinguishable from one another based on a detectable agent, such as a dye, attached thereto. In some embodiments, amplification products which are overrepresented are identified by comparing the amplification products from the culture or collection of strains which was contacted with the test compound to the amplification products from a culture or collection of strains which was not contacted with the test compound. Alternatively, amplification products which are overrepresented may be identified by simply identifying the amplification products obtained from the culture or collection of strains contacted with the test compound (for example, only one or a few strains may have proliferated in the presence of the test compound). The above methods for generating distinguishable amplification products may be used in conjunction with any of the methods for generating strains which overexpress gene products required for proliferation described herein in order to facilitate the

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identification of strains which proliferate more rapidly or more slowly in the presence of a test compound.

For example, in some embodiments of the present invention, each of the native promoters of each of the genes encoding gene product required for proliferation are replaced by a single desired replacement promoter. After growth of the culture or collection of strains containing the strains in which the promoters have been replaced in the presence of a test compound for a desired period of time, an amplification reaction is performed on nucleic acids obtained from the culture as follows.

The nucleic acids from the culture or collection of strains may be divided into at least two aliquots if desired. In a preferred embodiment the nucleic acids from the culture or collection of strains are divided into four aliquots. A single primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence within the replacement promoter, within the proliferation required genes, or within nucleic acid sequences adjacent to the promoter or proliferation required genes is divided into at least two portions, one portion for each aliquot of nucleic acids. Each portion of the primer is labeled with a distinct detectable dye, such as the 6FAMTM, TETTM, VICTM, HEXTM, NEDTM, and PETTM dyes obtainable from Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA). For example, the DS-31 or DS-33 dye sets available from Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA) may be used to label the primers. Alternatively, the HEXTM, NED, JOE, TMR and TETTM dyes available from Amersham Biosciences may be used. Thus, if the nucleic acids from the culture are not divided into aliquots, a single primer labeled with a single dye may be used. If the nucleic acids from the culture are divided into aliquots, at least 2, at least 3, at least 4 or more than 4 primers labeled with distinguishable dyes may be used. Each of the portions of labeled primers are added to each of the aliquots of the nucleic acids from the culture or collection of strains such that each aliquot of nucleic acid receives a single labeled primer with a single detectable dye thereon. In some embodiments, the primers are divided into 3 portions, 4 portions or more than 4 portions, with each portion having a dye which is distinguishable from the dyes on the other portions thereon.

Each of the aliquots of nucleic acids also receives a set of unlabeled primers, with each of the unlabeled primers being complementary to a nucleotide sequence within the promoter, within a nucleotide sequence which is unique to one of the genes encoding gene products required for proliferation which were placed under the control of the replacement promoter, or within nucleotide sequences adjacent to the promoter or proliferation required genes. Each of the aliquots receives primers unique to 1/N proliferation required genes which were placed under the control of the replacement promoter, where N is the number of aliquots (i.e. if the culture or collection of strains consisted of 100 strains in which a gene required for proliferation was placed under the control of the replacement promoter and was divided into four aliquots, then each of the four aliquots of nucleic acids from the culture or collection of strains would receive primers complementary to 25 of the genes). The unlabeled primers are selected so that each will yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the length of the amplification product produced with the other

unlabeled primers. Preferably, the amplification products are between about 100-about 400 nucleotides in length, but any lengths which may be distinguished from each other may be used. In addition, in some of the embodiments some of the amplification products may have identical or very similar lengths but be distinguishable from one another due to labeling with distinguishable dyes.

A nucleic acid amplification reaction is conducted on each of the nucleic acid aliquots. The amplification products are then separated by length to identify amplification products having increased representation in the culture or collection of strains (i.e. amplification products derived from cells which proliferated more rapidly in the culture or collection of strains). The amplification products are then correlated with the corresponding genes to determine which strains proliferated more rapidly in the culture or collection of strains. If desired, amplification products having increased representation in the culture may be identified by comparing the amplification products obtained from a culture or collection of strains which was contacted with the compound to amplification products obtained from a control culture or collection of strains which was not contacted with the compound. Alternatively, if desired, the amplification products which are obtained from a culture which was contacted with the compound.

For example, in some embodiments, the amplification products from each of the nucleic acid aliquots are pooled and subjected to capillary electrophoresis. The amplification products are detected by detecting the fluorescent dyes attached thereto and their lengths are determined to identify those amplification products having increased or decreased representation in the culture or collection of strains. Figures 2A and 2B illustrate one embodiment of this method in which the absence of an amplification product from an amplification reaction performed on a culture comprising a plurality of strains underexpressing genes required for proliferation indicates that a test compound acts on the gene corresponding to the missing amplification product. It will be appreciated that the method may also be used to identify an amplification product which is overrepresented in an amplification reaction conducted on a culture or collection of strains overexpressing genes required for proliferation because the test compound acted on the corresponding gene.

Alternatively, in another embodiment, a first amplification reaction is performed on nucleic acids obtained from a culture or collection of strains which was contacted with the compound using a first primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence present upstream or downstream of all of the overexpressed genes (such as a primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence in a replacement promoter upstream of all of the overexpressed genes) and a set of primers complementary to a nucleotide sequence unique to each of the strains (such as a primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence within each of the proliferation-required genes). One of the two amplification primers for each of the proliferation required genes is labeled with a dye as described above. Preferably, the common primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence upstream or downstream of all of the

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overexpressed genes is labeled with the dye. The primers used in the amplification reaction are designed so that the amplification product corresponding to each proliferation-required gene has a unique length or a dye which allows it to be distinguished from other amplification products of the same length. A second amplification reaction is conducted on a control culture or collection of strains which was not contacted with the compound using the same primers as in the first amplification reaction. The amplification products from the first amplification reaction are compared to those from the second amplification reaction to identify one or more amplification products which are overrepresented in the culture or collection of strains. For example, the amplification products from the first amplification reaction may be run in a separate lane of a polyacrylamide gel or a separate capillary than the amplification products from the second amplification reaction and the two lanes or capillaries are compared to one another. If desired, in the embodiment where the amplification products from the first amplification reaction are run in a different lane or capillary than the amplification products from the second amplification reaction, the same dye may be used to label the primers in the first and second amplification reactions. Alternatively, if desired, different dyes may be used to label the primers in the first and second amplification reactions. If desired, in the embodiment where the amplification products from the first amplification reaction are run in a different lane or capillary than the amplification products from the second amplification reaction, the same dye may be used to label the primers in the first and second amplification reactions. Alternatively, if desired, different dyes may be used to label the primers in the first and second amplification reactions.

Alternatively, in some embodiments, the primers in the second amplification reaction are labeled with a different dye which is distinguishable from the dye used in the first amplification reaction. In this embodiment, the amplification reactions may be pooled and run in the same lane on a polyacrylamide gel or in the same capillary and the products from each amplification reaction are compared by comparing the amount of each dye present for each amplification product. Figures 3A and 3B illustrate one embodiment of this method in which the absence of an amplification product from the amplification reaction performed on a culture comprising a plurality of strains underexpressing genes required for proliferation which was contacted with the compound indicates that a test compound acts on the gene corresponding to the missing amplification product. It will be appreciated that the method may also be used to identify an amplification product which is overrepresented in an amplification reaction conducted on a culture or collection of strains overexpressing genes required for proliferation because the test compound acted on the corresponding gene.

If desired, rather than dividing the culture into aliquots, individual amplification reactions may be conducted on nucleic acids obtained from the culture or collection of strains. Each amplification reaction contains primers which will yield an amplification product specific for only one of the proliferation required genes. The resulting amplification products from each of the

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individual amplification reactions are pooled and amplification products having increased representation in the culture are identified as described above.

In another embodiment, a culture or collection of strains in which gene products required for proliferation are overexpressed from regulatable promoters which replaced the native promoters of the genes encoding these gene products is allowed to grow in the presence of a test compound for a desired number of generations. Preferably, the culture or collection of strains is allowed to grow in the presence of the test compound for at least 20 generations. Nucleic acids are isolated from the culture or collection of strains and an amplification reaction is performed using a primer which is complementary to a nucleotide sequence within the replacement promoter(s) or a nucleotide sequence within the proliferation required genes or nucleotide sequences adjacent thereto. The resulting amplification product(s) is directly sequenced using a primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence within the replacement promoter.

In one embodiment of the present invention, the vector containing the nucleotide sequence encoding the proliferation-required gene product is obtained from a strain which proliferated more rapidly in the culture using methods such as plasmid preparation techniques. Nucleic acid sequencing techniques are then employed to determine the nucleotide sequence of the gene which was overexpressed.

Alternatively, the identity of the overexpressed gene product which is the target of the compound may be determined by performing a nucleic acid amplification reaction, such as a polymerase chain reaction (PCR), to identify the nucleotide sequence of the gene which was overexpressed. For example, aliquots of a nucleic acid preparation, such as a purified plasmid, from the strain which is recovered from the culture may each be contacted with pairs of PCR primers which would amplify a different proliferation-required gene to determine which pair of primers yields an amplification product.

An alternative method for determining the identity of the gene product described herein which is the target of the compound involves obtaining a nucleic acid array, such as a DNA chip, which contains each of the proliferation-required genes which were overexpressed in the strains in the culture. Each proliferation-required gene occupies a known location in the array. A nucleic acid preparation, such as a plasmid preparation, from the recovered strain is labeled with a detectable agent, such as radioactive or fluorescent moiety, and placed in contact with the nucleic acid array under conditions which permit the labeled nucleic acid to hybridize to complementary nucleic acids on the array. The location on the array to which the labeled nucleic acids hybridize is determined to identify the gene which was overexpressed in the recovered strain. If desired the hybridized nucleic acids from a culture which was contacted with the compound may be compared to the hybridized nucleic acids from a control culture which was not contacted with the compound. Alternatively, the hybridized nucleic acids from a culture which was contacted with the compound may be directly identified without comparison to nucleic acids from a control culture.

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In some instances, more than one strain may proliferate more rapidly in the presence of the compound. This may result from a variety of causes. For example, the concentration of the compound may not have been high enough to restrict proliferation only to cells which overexpress one gene product (i.e. the target gene product). While strains which overexpress the target gene product will be the most prevalent strain in the culture, other strains may also have proliferated. In such instances, the identity of the gene product in the strain which is most prevalent in the culture may be identified by quantitating the levels of each of the genes encoding proliferation-required proteins in the culture. This may be accomplished by quantitative PCR, DNA sequencing, hybridization, or array technology as described above.

In other instances, multiple strains will exhibit more rapid proliferation in the culture as a result of a common functional attribute. For example, the strains which proliferate more rapidly may each overexpress a gene product with a common enzymatic activity, such as serine protease activity for example. Alternatively, the strains which proliferate more rapidly may each overexpress a gene product with a common functional domain, such as a cAMP binding domain. In such instances, the common attribute of the strains which proliferate more rapidly may provide information as to the mode of action of the compound or the biochemical activity of the target of the compound. For example, if all of the overexpressed genes in the strains which proliferated more rapidly are serine proteases, the compound acts by inhibiting serine protease activity and the target protein is a serine protease. If desired, the compound may be derivatized and the efficacy of the derivatized compound against each of the strains which proliferated more rapidly may be assessed as described herein in order to identify derivatives which are capable of interacting with a wide range of targets sharing a common activity or binding site (i.e. derivatives which have a greater ability to inhibit the proliferation of all the strains than the original compound) or to identify derivatives having greater specificity for a desired target (i.e. derivatives which have a greater specificity for one of the strains than the original compound). For example, it is possible that a nonessential gene product expressed in the cell might also bind to the initial test compound in addition to the gene product required for proliferation. In such an instance, it is desirable to obtain a derivative of the initial test compound which is specific for the gene product required for proliferation. In addition, it is possible that two gene products required for proliferation might bind to the initial test compound but specificity for one of the gene products is desired.

Rather than employing a single culture which contains multiple strains each of which overexpresses a proliferation-required gene product described herein, the methods of the present invention may be performed using an array of individual strains (i.e. a collection of strains) each of which overexpresses a different proliferation-required gene product. For example, individual strains each overexpressing a different proliferation-required gene product may be grown in different wells of a multiwell plate. Each well is contacted with the compound (and, where appropriate an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter). The level of proliferation of the strains in each of the wells is determined to identify a strain which proliferated

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more rapidly. The identity of the overexpressed gene product in the strain that proliferated more rapidly is determined as described above.

In another embodiment, individual strains each overexpressing a different proliferation-required gene product (i.e. a collection of strains) are grown at different locations on a solid medium, such as an agar plate. The medium contains the compound and where appropriate an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter). The level of proliferation of each of the strains is determined to identify a strain which proliferated more rapidly. The identity of the overexpressed gene product in the strain that proliferated more rapidly is determined as described above.

The above methods may be used to prioritize compound development or to determine whether the compound has been previously identified or whether the target of the compound is the target of a previously identified drug. In particular, if the product is a natural product, it is advantageous to determine whether it has been previously identified prior to investing significant effort in developing it. Thus, in some embodiments of the present invention, the target of a partially purified or purified natural product or a compound produced by combinatorial chemistry is identified using the methods described above and compared to the targets of known drugs. If the target is identical to that of a known drug, further development of the compound is halted.

Alternatively, an array of strains each of which overexpresses a different gene product described herein (i.e. a collection of strains) is grown on solid medium containing a compound to be evaluated. The location of each strain in the array and the gene product overexpressed by that strain is known. The pattern of colonies which grow in the presence of the compound is evaluated and compared to the pattern of colonies which grow in the presence of previously identified drugs. If the pattern of colonies which grow in the presence of the compound being evaluated is the same as the pattern of colonies which grow in the presence of a previously identified drug, further development of the compound is halted.

Additionally in some embodiments, the sequence of the gene product in a strain which proliferated more rapidly in the assays described above is compared to the sequence of gene products from heterologous organisms to determine the likely spectrum of species whose growth would be inhibited by the compound. If the gene product has a high degree of homology to gene products from heterologous species, it is likely that the compound would also inhibit the growth of these heterologous species. Homology may be determined using any of a variety of methods familiar to those skilled in the art. For example, homology may be determined using a computer program such as BLASTP or FASTA. The ability of the compound to inhibit the growth of the heterologous species may then be confirmed by comparing the growth of cells of the heterologous species in the presence and absence of the compound.

Current methods for identifying the target of compounds which inhibit cellular proliferation are laborious and time consuming. The above methods may be employed to allow the targets of a large number of compounds to be rapidly identified. In such methods, the methods described above

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are simultaneously performed for each of a large number of compounds. For example, the compounds may be members of a library of compounds generated using combinatorial chemistry or members of a natural product library. In such methods, a plurality of cultures each comprising a plurality of strains each of which overexpresses a different gene product required for proliferation or a plurality of collections of individual strains each of which overexpresses a different gene product required for proliferation is obtained. Each culture or collection of strains is contacted with a different compound in the library and the target of the compound is identified as described above.

In another embodiment, the gene product described herein on which a compound which inhibits the proliferation of an organism acts is identified using a culture which comprises a mixture of strains of the organism including strains which underexpress a different gene product which is required for proliferation of the organism (i.e. at least some of the strains in the culture underexpress a gene product which is required for proliferation of the organism). Preferably, each of the strains in the culture underexpress a different a gene product which is required for the proliferation of the organism (i.e. all of the strains in the culture underexpress a gene product which is required for the proliferation of the organism). In some embodiments, the culture comprises at least one strain which underexpresses a gene product selected from the group consisting of a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a homologous antisense nucleic acid, a gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid, and a gene product comprising a homologous polypeptide.

Strains underexpressing the proliferation-required gene products described herein may be obtained using the methods described above. The culture may comprise any number of strains. For example the culture may comprise at least two strains, at least 10 strains, at least 20 strains, at least 30, strains, at least 50 strains, at least 100 strains, at least 300 strains or more than 300 strains which underexpress a gene product required for proliferation. In some embodiments, the strains in the culture in aggregate may underexpress all or most of the gene products required for proliferation of the organism.

The culture is contacted with a compound which inhibits proliferation of the organism. The compound may be a candidate drug compound obtained from any source. For example, the compound may be a compound generated using combinatorial chemistry, a compound from a natural product library, or an impure or partially purified compound, such as a compound in a partially purified natural extract. The culture is contacted with a sufficient concentration of the compound to inhibit the proliferation of strains of the organism in the culture which underexpress the gene product on which the compound acts, such that strains which do not underexpress the gene product on which the compound acts proliferate more rapidly in the culture than strains which do

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underexpress said gene product on which said compound acts. Thus, after a sufficient period of time, the strain which underexpresses the gene product on which the compound acts will be less prevalent in the culture than strains which do not underexpress the gene product on which the compound acts. In one embodiment, the growth conditions and incubation period are selected so that only one strain, the strain underexpressing the target of the compound, proliferates at a reduced rate in the culture. In another embodiment, the growth conditions may be selected so that the strain underexpressing the target of the compound is not recovered from the culture. Thus, in one embodiment, a plurality of cultures containing a plurality of strains each of which underexpresses a different proliferation-required gene product may be grown in the presence of varying concentrations of the compound. In addition to varying the compound concentrations, in embodiments where expression of the proliferation-required gene product is under the control of a regulatable promoter, the plurality of cultures may be grown at varying concentrations of an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter, such as an inducer or an agent which reduces the effect of a repressor on transcription from the promoter. It will be appreciated, that the cultures may be grown in liquid medium in the presence of the compound whose target is to be identified (and where appropriate in the presence of an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter) or alternatively, a liquid culture comprising the strains which underexpress the proliferation-required gene products may be grown in the absence of the compound whose target is to be identified and then introduced onto a solid medium containing the compound (and, where appropriate, also containing an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter).

The identity of the underexpressed gene product which is the target of the compound may be determined using a variety of methods. For example, in some embodiments of the present invention, the nucleic acids present in the culture or collection of strains which was contacted with the compound may be compared to the nucleic acids present in a control culture or collection of strains which was not contacted with the compound to identify nucleic acids which are underrepresented in the culture or collection of strains contacted with the test compound relative to the control culture or strains. Alternatively, in some embodiments, the nucleic acids present in a culture or collection of strains contacted with the test compound may be analyzed to identify those nucleic acids which are missing or present at reduced levels without comparison to a control culture or collection of strains.

In some embodiments of the present invention, the strains which proliferated more slowly in the culture or collection of strains, i.e. strains having an decreased ability to proliferate in the presence of a test compound or which do not proliferate in the presence of a test compound, are identified as follows. Amplification products which are correlated with each of the underexpressed genes and which are distinguishable from one another are obtained from a culture or collection grown in the presence of a test compound. The amplification products are distinguished from one another to determine whether a particular amplification product is underrepresented in the culture or collection of strains. In some embodiments, the amplification products corresponding to each of the

gene products have lengths which permit them to be distinguished from one another. In another embodiment, one or more of the amplification products have similar or identical lengths but are distinguishable from one another based on a detectable agent, such as a dye, attached thereto. In some embodiments, amplification products which are underrepresented are identified by comparing the amplification products from the culture or collection of strains which was contacted with the test compound to the amplification products from a culture or collection of strains which was not contacted with the test compound. Alternatively, amplification products which are underrepresented in the culture or collection of strains may be identified simply by determining which amplification products are missing or present at reduced levels in the culture or collection of strains. The above methods for generating distinguishable amplification products may be used in conjunction with any of the methods for generating strains which underexpress gene products required for proliferation described herein in order to facilitate the identification of strains which proliferate more slowly in the presence of a test compound.

For example, in some embodiments of the present invention, each of the native promoters of each of the genes encoding gene product required for proliferation are replaced by a single desired replacement promoter. After growth of the culture or collection of strains containing the strains in which the promoters have been replaced in the presence of a test compound for a desired period of time, an amplification reaction is performed on nucleic acids obtained from the culture as follows.

The nucleic acids from the culture or collection of strains are divided into at least two aliquots. In a preferred embodiment the nucleic acids from the culture or collection of strains are divided into four aliquots. A single primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence within the replacement promoter, within the proliferation required genes, or within nucleic acid sequences adjacent to the promoter or proliferation required genes is divided into four groups. Each group is labeled with a distinct detectable dye, such as the 6FAMTM, TETTM, VICTM, HEXTM, NEDTM, and PETTM dyes obtainable from Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA). For example, the DS-31 or DS-33 dye sets available from Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA) may be used to label the primers. Each of the groups of labeled primers are added to each of the aliquots of the nucleic acids from the culture or collection of strains such that each aliquot of nucleic acid receives a single labeled primer with a single detectable dye thereon.

Each of the aliquots of nucleic acids also receives a set of unlabeled primers, with each of the unlabeled primers being complementary to a nucleotide sequence within the promoter, within a nucleotide sequence which is unique to one of the genes encoding gene products required for proliferation which were placed under the control of the replacement promoter, or within nucleotide sequences adjacent to the promoter or proliferation required genes. Each of the aliquots receives primers unique to 1/N proliferation required genes which were placed under the control of the replacement promoter, where N is the number of aliquots (i.e. if the culture or collection of strains consisted of 100 strains in which a gene required for proliferation was placed under the control of the replacement promoter and was divided into four aliquots, then each of the four aliquots of

nucleic acids from the culture or collection of strains would receive primers complementary to 25 of the genes). The unlabeled primers are selected so that each will yield an amplification product having a length distinguishable from the length of the amplification product produced with the other unlabeled primers. Preferably, the amplification products are between about 100-about 400 nucleotides in length, but any lengths which may be distinguished from each other may be used. In addition, in some of the embodiments some of the amplification products may have identical or very similar lengths but be distinguishable from one another due to labeling with distinguishable dyes.

A nucleic acid amplification reaction is conducted on each of the nucleic acid aliquots. The amplification products are then separated by length to identify amplification products decreased representation or which are absent in the culture or collection of strains. The amplification products are then correlated with the corresponding genes to determine which strains proliferated more slowly in the culture or collection of strains. If desired, amplification products having decreased representation in the culture may be identified by comparing the amplification products obtained from a culture or collection of strains which was contacted with the compound to amplification products obtained from a control culture or collection of strains which was not contacted with the compound. Alternatively, if desired, the amplification products which are missing or present at reduced levels in a culture which was contacted with the compound may be directly identified without comparison to a control culture which was not contacted with the compound.

For example, in some embodiments, the amplification products from each of the nucleic acid aliquots are pooled and subjected to capillary electrophoresis. The amplification products are detected by detecting the fluorescent dyes attached thereto and their lengths are determined to identify those amplification products having decreased representation in the culture or collection of strains. Figures 2A and 2B illustrate one embodiment of this method in which the absence of an amplification product from an amplification reaction performed on a culture comprising a plurality of strains underexpressing genes required for proliferation indicates that a test compound acts on the gene corresponding to the missing amplification product.

Alternatively, in another embodiment, a first amplification reaction is performed on nucleic acids obtained from a culture or collection of strains which was contacted with the compound using a first primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence present upstream or downstream of all of the overexpressed genes (such as a primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence in a replacement promoter upstream of all of the overexpressed genes) and a set of primers complementary to a nucleotide sequence unique to each of the strains (such as a primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence within each of the proliferation-required genes). One of the two amplification primers for each of the proliferation required genes is labeled with a dye as described above. Preferably, the common primer complementary to a nucleotide sequence upstream or downstream of all of the overexpressed genes is labeled with the dye. The primers used in the amplification reaction are designed so that the amplification product corresponding to each proliferation-required gene has a

unique length. A second amplification reaction is conducted on a control culture or collection of strains which was not contacted with the compound using the same primers as in the first amplification reaction. The amplification products from the first amplification reaction are compared to those from the second amplification reaction to identify one or more amplification products which are underrepresented in the culture or collection of strains. For example, the amplification products from the first amplification reaction may be run in a separate lane of a polyacrylamide gel or a separate capillary than the amplification products from the second amplification reaction and the two lanes or capillaries are compared to one another.

Alternatively, in some embodiments, the primers in the second amplification reaction are labeled with a different dye which is distinguishable from the dye used in the first amplification reaction. In this embodiment, the amplification reactions may be pooled and run in the same lane on a polyacrylamide gel or in the same capillary and the products from each amplification reaction are compared by comparing the amount of each dye present for each amplification product. Figures 3A and 3B illustrate one embodiment of this method in which the absence of an amplification product from the amplification reaction performed on a culture comprising a plurality of strains underexpressing genes required for proliferation which was contacted with the compound indicates that a test compound acts on the gene corresponding to the missing amplification product.

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If desired, rather than dividing the culture into aliquots, individual amplification reactions may be conducted on nucleic acids obtained from the culture or collection of strains. Each amplification reaction contains primers which will yield an amplification product specific for only one of the proliferation required genes. The resulting amplification products from each of the individual amplification reactions are pooled and amplification products having decreased representation in the culture are identified as described above.

In an alternative embodiment, the representation of each strain in the culture may be assessed by hybridizing detectably labeled nucleic acids encoding the proliferation-required gene products, or portions thereof, obtained from the culture to an array comprising nucleic acids encoding the gene products required for proliferation or portions thereof. Each nucleic acid encoding a gene product required for proliferation or portion thereof occupies a known location on the array. The signal from each location on the array is quantitated to identify those nucleic acids encoding a proliferation-required gene product which are underrepresented in the culture. If desired the hybridized nucleic acids from a culture which was contacted with the compound. Alternatively, the hybridized nucleic acids from a culture which was not contacted with the compound may be directly analyzed without comparison to nucleic acids from a control culture.

In another alternative, each strain underexpressing a gene product required for proliferation may be constructed to contain a unique nucleic acid sequence (referred to herein as a "tag"). The tag may be included in the chromosome of each strain or in an extrachromosomal vector. For example, the tag could be included in a vector encoding an antisense nucleic acid complementary to

a gene encoding a gene product required for proliferation or a portion of such a gene or the tag may be included in the antisense nucleic acid itself. The representation of each strain in the culture may be assessed by performing an amplification reaction using primers complementary to each of the tags and quantitating the levels of the resulting amplification products to identify a tag which is underrepresented or absent from the culture. Since each tag corresponds to one strain, the strain which is underrepresented or absent from the culture may be identified. If desired the tags present in a culture which was contacted with the compound may be compared to the tags present in a culture which was not contacted with the compound. Alternatively, the tags present in a culture which was contacted with the compound may be analyzed without comparison to a control culture.

It will be appreciated that, if desired, unique tags may also be used in embodiments in which gene products required for proliferation are overexpressed. In some aspects of such embodiments, the tags may be within or adjacent to the promoter which drives expression of the gene encoding the gene product. In such embodiments, the gene product which is overexpressed in strains which proliferate more rapidly in the culture may be identified by detecting the presence or amount of the unique tag corresponding to that gene product in the culture.

In some instances, more than one strain may proliferate less rapidly in the presence of the compound. This may result from a variety of causes. For example, the concentration of the compound may not have been high enough to reduce the proliferation only in cells which underexpress one gene product (i.e. the target gene product). While strains which underexpress the target gene product will be the least prevalent strain in the culture, other strains may also be underrepresented. In such instances, the identity of the gene product in the strain which is least prevalent in the culture (or not recovered from the culture) may be identified by quantitating the levels of each of the genes encoding proliferation-required proteins in the culture. This may be accomplished by quantitative PCR, DNA sequencing, hybridization, or array technology as described above.

In other instances, multiple strains will exhibit less rapid proliferation in the culture as a result of a common functional attribute. For example, the strains which proliferate less rapidly (or the strains which are not recovered from the culture) may each underexpress a gene product with a common enzymatic activity, such as serine protease activity for example. Alternatively, the strains which proliferate less rapidly (or the strains which are not recovered from the culture) may each underexpress a gene product with a common functional domain, such as a cAMP binding domain. In such instances, the common attribute of the strains which proliferate less rapidly (or the strains which are not recovered from the culture) may provide information as to the mode of action of the compound or the biochemical activity of the target of the compound. For example, if all of the underexpressed genes in the strains which proliferated less rapidly are serine proteases, the compound acts by inhibiting serine protease activity and the target protein is a serine protease. If desired, the compound may be derivatized and the efficacy of the derivatized compound against

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each of the strains which proliferated more rapidly may be assessed as described herein in order to identify derivatives which are capable of interacting with a wide range of targets sharing a common activity or binding site (i.e. derivatives which have a greater ability to inhibit the proliferation of all the strains than the original compound) or to identify derivatives having greater specificity for a desired target (i.e. derivatives which have a greater specificity for one of the strains than the original compound).

Rather than employing a single culture which contains multiple strains each of which underexpresses a proliferation-required gene product described herein, the methods of the present invention may be performed using an array of individual strains (i.e. a collection of strains) each of which underexpresses a different proliferation-required gene product. For example, individual strains each underexpressing a different proliferation-required gene product may be grown in different wells of a multiwell plate. Each well is contacted with the compound (and, where appropriate an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter). The level of proliferation of the strains in each of the wells is determined to identify a strain which proliferated less rapidly or which did not proliferate at all. The identity of the underexpressed gene product in the strain that proliferated less rapidly or which did not proliferate at all is determined as described above.

In another embodiment, individual strains each underexpressing a different proliferation-required gene product (i.e. a collection of strains) are grown at different locations on a solid medium, such as an agar plate. The medium contains the compound and, where appropriate, an agent which regulates the level of expression from the promoter. The level of proliferation of each of the strains is determined to identify a strain which proliferated less rapidly (or a strain which is not recovered from the culture). The identity of the underexpressed gene product in the strain that proliferated less rapidly (or the strain which is not recovered from the culture) is determined as described above.

The above methods may be used to prioritize compound development or to determine whether the compound has been previously identified or whether the target of the compound is the target of a previously identified drug. In particular, if the product is a natural product is advantageous to determine whether it has been previously identified prior to investing significant effort in developing it. Thus, in some embodiments of the present invention, the target of a partially purified or purified natural product or a compound produced by combinatorial chemistry is identified using the methods described above and compared to the targets of known drugs. If the target is identical to that of a known drug, further development of the compound is halted.

Alternatively, an array of strains each of which underexpresses a different gene product described herein (i.e. a collection of strains) is grown on solid medium containing a compound to be evaluated. The location of each strain in the array and the gene product underexpressed by that strain is known. The pattern of colonies which grow less rapidly or fail to grow in the presence of the compound is evaluated and compared to the pattern of colonies which grow less rapidly or fail

to grow in the presence of previously identified drugs. If the pattern of colonies which grow less rapidly or fail to grow in the presence of the compound being evaluated is the same as the pattern of colonies which grow less rapidly or fail to grow in the presence of a previously identified drug, further development of the compound is halted.

Additionally, the nucleotide sequence of the gene product described herein in a strain which proliferated less rapidly (or a strain which was not recovered from the culture) in the assays described above is compared to the nucleotide sequence of gene products from heterologous organisms to determine the likely spectrum of species whose growth would be inhibited by the compound. If the gene product has a high degree of homology to gene products from heterologous species, it is likely that the compound would also inhibit the growth of these heterologous species. Homology may be determined using any of a variety of methods familiar to those skilled in the art. For example, homology may be determined using a computer program such as BLASTP or FASTA. The ability of the compound to inhibit the growth of the heterologous species may then be confirmed by comparing the growth of cells of the heterologous species in the presence and absence of the compound.

In other embodiments, the present invention uses collections or cultures of strains comprising both strains which overexpress gene products described herein required for cellular proliferation and strains which underexpress the same gene products required for cellular proliferation. The gene product which is overexpressed or underexpressed in each strain may be a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, a gene product encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, a gene product comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, a gene product whose activity or level is inhibited by a homologous antisense nucleic acid, a gene product encoded by a homologous coding nucleic acid, and a gene product comprising a homologous polypeptide.

The culture or collection of strains is contacted with a compound and the nucleic acids present in the culture or collection of strains are analyzed. Preferably, nucleic acids derived from overexpressing strains can be distinguished from those derived from underexpressing strains. For example, the overexpressing strains may be obtained using promoter replacement as described above while the underexpressing strains may be obtained by expressing antisense nucleic acids. Accordingly, in one embodiment, amplification primers may be designed which will uniquely amplify nucleic acids from the overexpressing strains or the underexpressing strains. If a compound acts on a gene product which was overexpressed and underexpressed in the culture, then the amplification product obtained from the strain in the culture or collection which overexpressed gene product will be overrepresented in the culture or collection while the amplification product obtained from the strain which underexpressed the gene product will be underrepresented in the culture or collection. If desired, nucleic acids from a culture or collection which was contacted with

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the compound may be compared to nucleic acids from a control culture or collection which was not contacted with the compound. Alternatively, nucleic acids from a culture or collection which was contacted with the compound may be directly analyzed without comparison to a control culture or collection.

In some embodiments, strains are constructed in which a nucleic acid complementary to a gene encoding a gene product described herein required for proliferation or a portion thereof is operably linked to a regulatable promoter. For example, in some embodiments, the strains may transcribe an antisense nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213 or fragments thereof which inhibit proliferation or reduce the activity or level of the gene product encoded by the gene comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to the antisense nucleic acid or homologous antisense nucleic acids or fragments thereof. In other embodiments, the strains may transcribe an antisense nucleic acid which reduces the activity or level of a gene product encoded by SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, the polypeptides of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581, homologous coding nucleic acids or homologous polypeptides. A culture comprising a plurality of such strains wherein each strain expresses an antisense nucleic acid against a different gene product required for proliferation is grown in the presence of varying levels of a compound which inhibits proliferation and in the presence of varying levels of an agent which regulates the level of transcription from the regulatable promoter. Nucleic acids samples are obtained from the culture, detectably labeled and hybridized to a solid support comprising nucleic acids containing the genes encoding the proliferation-required gene products or a portion thereof. The level of hybridization is quantitated for each nucleic acid encoding each of the proliferation-required gene products to determine the rate at which each of the strains proliferated in the culture. If the antisense nucleic acid expressed by a strain in the culture is not complementary to all or a portion of the gene encoding the target of the compound (i.e. a nonspecific strain), then the hybridization intensity for that strain will not be correlated with the concentration of the compound (See Figure 4), while if the antisense nucleic acid expressed by a strain in the culture is complementary to all or a portion of the gene encoding the target of the compound, the hybridization intensity for that strain will be intimately correlated with the concentration of the compound (See Figure 5). In this manner, the target of the compound may be identified. It will be appreciated that, as described above, rather than growing the strains in a single culture, each strain may be grown in a different location on a solid medium or in a different well of a multiwell plate.

The methods described above can be simultaneously performed for each of a large number of compounds. For example, the compounds may be members of a library of compounds generated using combinatorial chemistry or members of a natural product library. In such methods, a plurality of cultures each comprising a plurality of strains each of which overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product required for proliferation or a plurality of collections of individual strains each of which overexpresses or underexpresses a different gene product required for proliferation is

obtained. Each culture or collection of strains is contacted with a different compound in the library and the target of the compound is identified as described above.

In still another embodiment, the antisense nucleic acids of the present invention (including the antisense nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213 fragments thereof or homologous antisense nucleic acids or fragements thereof) that inhibit bacterial growth or proliferation can be used as antisense therapeutics for killing bacteria. The antisense sequences can be complementary to one of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397 or fragments thereof, homologous coding nucleic acids or fragments thereof. Alternatively, antisense therapeutics can be complementary to operons in which proliferation-required genes reside (i.e. the antisense nucleic acid may hybridize to a nucleotide sequence of any gene in the operon in which the proliferation-required genes reside). Further, antisense therapeutics can be complementary to a proliferation-required gene or portion thereof with or without adjacent noncoding sequences, an intragenic sequence (i.e. a sequence within a gene), an intergenic sequence (i.e. a sequence between genes), a sequence spanning at least a portion of two or more genes, a 5' noncoding region or a 3' noncoding region located upstream or downstream from the actual sequence that is required for bacterial proliferation or an operon containing a proliferation-required gene.

In addition to therapeutic applications, the present invention encompasses the use of nucleic acids complementary to nucleic acids required for proliferation as diagnostic tools. For example, nucleic acid probes comprising nucleotide sequences complementary to proliferation-required sequences that are specific for particular species of cells or microorganisms can be used as probes to identify particular microorganism species or cells in clinical specimens. This utility provides a rapid and dependable method by which to identify the causative agent or agents of a bacterial infection. This utility would provide clinicians the ability to accurately identify the species responsible for the infection and amdminister a compound effective against it. In an extension of this utility, antibodies generated against proteins translated from mRNA transcribed from proliferation-required sequences can also be used to screen for specific cells or microorganisms that produce such proteins in a species-specific manner.

Other embodiments of the present invention include methods of identifying compounds which inhibit the activity of gene products required for cellular proliferation using rational drug design. As discussed in more detail below, in such methods, the structure of the gene product is determined using techniques such as x-ray crystallography or computer modeling. Compounds are screened to identify those which have a structure which would allow them to interact with the gene product or a portion thereof to inhibit its activity. The compounds may be obtained using any of a variety of methods familiar to those skilled in the art, including combinatorial chemistry. In some embodiments, the compounds may be obtained from a natural product library. In some embodiments, compounds having a structure which allows them to interact with the active site of a gene product, such as the active site of an enzyme, or with a portion of the gene product which interacts with another biomolecule to form a complex are identified. If desired, lead compounds may be identified and further optimized to provide compounds which are highly effective against the gene product.

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The following examples teach the genes of the present invention and a subset of uses for the genes identified as required for proliferation. These examples are illustrative only and are not intended to limit the scope of the present invention.

EXAMPLES

The following examples are directed to the identification and exploitation of genes required for proliferation. Methods of gene identification are discussed as well as a variety of methods to utilize the identified sequences. It will be appreciated that any of the antisense nucleic acids, proliferartion-required genes or proliferation-required gene products described herein, or portions thereof, may be used in the procedures described below, including the antisense nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 1-6213, the nucleic acids of SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397, or the polypeptides of SEQ ID NOs.: 42398-78581. Likewise, homologous antisense nucleic acids, homologous coding nucleic acids, homologous polypeptides or portions of any of the above-mentioned nucleic acids or polypeptides, may be used in any of the procedures described below.

Genes Identified as Required for Proliferation of Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Salmonella typhimurium.

Genomic fragments were operably linked to an inducible promoter in a vector and assayed for growth inhibition activity. Example 1 describes the examination of a library of genomic fragments cloned into vectors comprising inducible promoters. Upon induction with xylose or IPTG, the vectors produced an RNA molecule corresponding to the subcloned genomic fragments. In those instances where the genomic fragments were in an antisense orientation with respect to the promoter, the transcript produced was complementary to at least a portion of an mRNA (messenger RNA) encoding a Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa or Salmonella typhimurium gene product such that they interacted with sense mRNA produced from various Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa or Salmonella typhimurium genes and thereby decreased the translation efficiency or the level of the sense messenger RNA thus decreasing production of the protein encoded by these sense mRNA molecules. In cases where the sense mRNA encoded a protein required for proliferation, bacterial cells containing a vector from which transcription from the promoter had been induced failed to grow or grew at a substantially reduced rate. Additionally, in cases where the transcript produced was complementary to at least a portion of a nontranslated RNA and where that non-translated RNA was required for proliferation, bacterial cells containing a vector from which transcription from the promoter had been induced also failed to grow or grew at a substantially reduced rate. In contrast, cells grown under non-inducing conditions grow at a normal rate.

The above method was used to identify genes required for cellular proliferation in *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Salmonella typhimurium*. Additionally, a number of genes required for cellular

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proliferation in *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Salmonella typhimurium*, which have been described in the following U.S. Patent Applications: U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/492,709, filed January 27, 2000; U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/711,164, filed November 9, 2000; U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/741,669, filed December 19, 2000 and U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/815,242 filed March 21, 2001, U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/342,923, filed October 25, 2001, have been previously identified using the above method.

EXAMPLE 1

Inhibition of Bacterial Proliferation after Induction of Antisense Expression

To identify genes required for proliferation of *E. coli*, random genomic fragments were cloned into the IPTG-inducible expression vector pLEX5BA (Krause et al., J. Mol. Biol. 274: 365 (1997) or a modified version of pLEX5BA, pLEX5BA-3' in which a synthetic linker containing a T7 terminator was ligated between the PstI and HindIII sites of pLEX5BA. In particular, to construct pLEX5BA-3', the following oligonucleotides were annealed and inserted into the PstI and HindIII sites of pLEX5BA:

5'-GTCTAGCATAACCCCTTGGGGCCTCTAAACGGGTCCTTGAGGGGTTTTTTGA-3' (SEQ ID NO: 78584)

5'-AGCTTCAAAAACCCCTCAAGGACCCGTTTAGAGGCCCCAAGGGGTTAT GCTAGACTGCA-3' (SEO ID NO: 78585)

Random fragments of *E. coli* genomic DNA were generated by DNAseI digestion or sonication, filled in with T4 polymerase, and cloned into the SmaI site of pLEX5BA or pLEX5BA-3'. Upon activation or induction, the promoter transcribed the random genomic fragments.

A number of vectors which allow the production of transcripts which have an extended lifetime in E. coli as well as other Gram negative bacteria can also be utilized in conjunction with these antisense inhibition experiments. Such vectors are described in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/343,512, filed December 21, 2001. Briefly, the stabilized antisense RNA may comprise an antisense RNA which was identified as inhibiting proliferation as described above which has been engineered to contain at least one stem loop flanking each end of the antisense nucleic acid. In some embodiments, the at least one stem-loop structure formed at the 5' end of the stabilized antisense nucleic acid comprises a flush, double stranded 5' end. In some embodiments, one or more of the stem loops comprises a rho independent terminator. In additional embodiments, the stabilized antisense RNA lacks a ribosome binding site. In further embodiments, the stabilized RNA lacks sites which are cleaved by one or more RNAses, such as RNAse E or RNAse III. In some embodiments, the stabilized antisense RNA may be transcribed in a cell which the activity of at least one enzyme involved in RNA degradation has been reduced. For example, the activity of an enzyme such as RNase E, RNase II, RNase III, polynucleotide phosphorylase, and poly(A) polymerase, RNA helicase, enolase or an enzyme having similar functions may be reduced in the cell.

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To study the effects of transcriptional induction in liquid medium, growth curves were carried out by back diluting cultures 1:200 into fresh media with or without 1 mM IPTG and measuring the OD_{450} every 30 minutes (min). To study the effects of transcriptional induction on solid medium, 10^2 , 10^3 , 10^4 , 10^5 , 10^6 , 10^7 and 10^8 fold dilutions of overnight cultures were prepared. Aliquots of from 0.5 to 3 μ l of these dilutions were spotted on selective agar plates with or without 1 mM IPTG. After overnight incubation, the plates were compared to assess the sensitivity of the clones to IPTG.

Of the numerous clones tested, some clones were identified as containing a sequence that inhibited *E. coli* growth after IPTG induction. Accordingly, the gene to which the inserted nucleic acid sequence corresponds, or a gene within the operon containing the inserted nucleic acid, is required for proliferation in *E. coli*.

Nucleic acids involved in proliferation of Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Salmonella typhimurium were identified as follows. Randomly generated fragments of Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa or Salmonella typhimurium genomic DNA were transcribed from inducible promoters.

In the case of *Staphylococcus aureus*, a novel inducible promoter system, XylT5, comprising a modified T5 promoter fused to the *xylO* operater from the *xylA* promoter of *Staphylococcus aureus* was used. The promoter is described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393, filed December 21, 2001. Transcription from this hybrid promoter is inducible by xylose.

Randomly generated fragments of Salmonella typhimurium genomic DNA were transcribed from an IPTG inducible promoter in pLEX5BA (Krause et al., J. Mol. Biol. 274: 365 (1997) or a derivative thereof. Randomly generated fragements of Klebsiella pneumoniae genomic DNA were expressed from an IPTG inducible promoter in pLEX5BA-Kan. To construct pLEX5BA-kan, pLEX5BA was digested to completion with ClaI in order to remove the bla gene. Then the plasmid was treated with a partial *Not*I digestion and blunted with T4 DNA polymerase. A 3.2 kbp fragment was then gel purified and ligated to a blunted 1.3 kbp kan gene from pKanπ. Kan resistant transformants were selected on Kan plates. Orientation of the kan gene was checked by SmaI digestion. A clone, which had the kan gene in the same orientation as the bla gene, was used to identify genes required for proliferation of Klebsiella pneumoniae. Randomly fragments of Pseudomonas aeruginosa genomic DNA were trancribed from a two-component inducible promoter system. Integrated on the chromosome was the T7 RNA polymerase gene regulated by lacUV5/lacO (Brunschwig, E. and Darzins, A. 1992. Gene 111:35-41. On a separate plasmid, a T7 gene 10 promoter, which is transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase, was fused with a lacO operator followed by a multiple cloning site.

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Should the genomic DNA downstream of the promoter contain, in an antisense orientation, at least a portion of an mRNA or a non-translated RNA encoding a gene product involved in proliferation, then induction of transcription from the promoter will result in detectable inhibition of proliferation.

In the case of *Staphylococcus aureus*, a shotgun library of *Staphylococcus aureus* genomic fragments was cloned into the vector pXyIT5-P15a, which harbors the XyIT5 inducible promoter. The vector was linearized at a unique *Bam*HI site immediately downstream of the XyIT5 promoter/operator. The linearized vector was treated with shrimp alkaline phosphatase to prevent reclosure of the linearized ends. Genomic DNA isolated from *Staphylococcus aureus* strain RN450 was fully digested with the restriction enzyme *Sau*3A, or, alternatively, partially digested with DNase I and "blunt-ended" by incubating with T4 DNA polymerase. Random genomic fragments between 200 and 800 base pairs in length were selected by gel purification. The size-selected genomic fragments were added to the linearized and dephosphorylated vector at a molar ratio of 0.1 to 1, and ligated to form a shotgun library.

The ligated products were transformed into electrocompetent E. coli strain XL1-Blue MRF (Stratagene) and plated on LB medium with supplemented with carbenicillin at 100 μ g/ml. Resulting colonies numbering 5 x 10⁵ or greater were scraped and combined, and were then subjected to plasmid purification.

The purified library was then transformed into electrocompetent *Staphylococcus aureus* RN4220. Resulting transformants were plated on agar containing LB + 0.2% glucose (LBG medium) + chloramphenicol at 15 µg/ml (LBG+CM15 medium) in order to generate 100 to 150 platings at 500 colonies per plating. The colonies were subjected to robotic picking and arrayed into wells of 384 well culture dishes. Each well contained 100µl of LBG + CM15 liquid medium. Inoculated 384 well dishes were incubated 16 hours at 37°C, and each well was robotically gridded onto solid LBG + CM15 medium with or without 2% xylose. Gridded plates were incubated 16 hours at 37°C, and then manually scored for arrayed colonies that were growth-compromised in the presence of xylose.

Arrayed colonies that were growth-sensitive on medium containing 2% xylose, yet were able to grow on similar medium lacking xylose, were subjected to further growth sensitivity analysis as follows: Colonies from the plate lacking xylose were manually picked and inoculated into individual wells of a 96 well culture dish containing LBG + CM15, and were incubated for 16 hours at 37°C. These cultures were robotically diluted 1/100 into fresh medium and allowed to incubate for 4 hours at 37°C, after which they were subjected to serial dilutions in a 384 well array and then gridded onto media containing 2% xylose or media lacking xylose. After growth for 16 hours at 37°C, the arrays that resulted on the two media were compared to each other. Clones that grew similarly at all dilutions on both media were scored as a negative and were no longer considered. Clones that grew on xylose medium but failed to grow at the same serial dilution on the non-xylose plate were given a score based on the differential, i.e. should the clone grow at a

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serial dilution of 10⁴ or less on the xylose plate and grow at a serial dilution of 10⁸ or less on the non-xylose plate, then the corresponding clone received a score of "4" representing the log difference in growth observed.

For Salmonella typhimurium and Klebsiella pneumoniae growth curves were carried out by back diluting cultures 1:200 into fresh media containing 1 mM IPTG or media lacking IPTG and measuring the OD_{450} every 30 minutes (min). To study the effects of transcriptional induction on solid medium, 10^2 , 10^3 , 10^4 , 10^5 , 10^6 , 10^7 and 10^8 fold dilutions of overnight cultures were prepared. Aliquots of from 0.5 to 3 μ l of these dilutions were spotted on selective agar plates with or without 1 mM IPTG. After overnight incubation, the plates were compared to assess the sensitivity of the clones to IPTG.

Nucleic acids involved in proliferation of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* were identified as follows. Randomly generated fragments of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* genomic DNA were transcribed from a two-component inducible promoter system. Integrated on the chromosome was the T7 RNA polymerase gene regulated by *lac*UV5/ *lac*O (Brunschwig, E. and Darzins, A. 1992. Gene 111:35-41). On an expression plasmid there was a T7 gene 10 promoter, which is transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase, fused with a *lac*O operator followed by a multiple cloning site. Transcription from this hybrid promoter is inducible by IPTG. Should the genomic DNA downstream of the promoter contain, in an antisense orientation, at least a portion of an mRNA encoding a gene product involved in proliferation, then induction of expression from the promoter will result in detectable inhibition of proliferation.

A shotgun library of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* genomic fragments was cloned into the vectors pEP5, pEP5S, or other similarly constructed vectors which harbor the T7*lac*O inducible promoter. The vector was linearized at a unique *Sma*I site immediately downstream of the T7*lac*O promoter/operator. The linearized vector was treated with shrimp alkaline phosphatase to prevent reclosure of the linearized ends. Genomic DNA isolated from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* strain PAO1 was partially digested with DNase I and "blunt-ended" by incubating with T4 DNA polymerase. Random genomic fragments between 200 and 800 base pairs in length were selected by gel purification. The size-selected genomic fragments were added to the linearized and dephosphorylated vector at a molar ratio of 2 to 1, and ligated to form a shotgun library.

The ligated products were transformed into electrocompetent E. coli strain XL1-Blue MRF (Stratagene) and plated on LB medium with carbenicillin at 100 µg/ml or Streptomycin 100 µg/ml. Resulting colonies numbering 5 x 10^5 or greater were scraped and combined, and were then subjected to plasmid purification.

The purified library was then transformed into electrocompetent *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* strain PAO1. Resulting transformants were plated on LB agar with carbenicillin at $100 \,\mu\text{g/ml}$ or Streptomycin 40 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ in order to generate 100 to 150 platings at 500 colonies per plating. The colonies were subjected to robotic picking and arrayed into wells of 384 well culture dishes. Each well contained 100 μ l of LB + CB 100 or Streptomycin 40 liquid medium. Inoculated 384 well

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dishes were incubated 16 hours at room temperature, and each well was robotically gridded onto solid LB + CB100 or Streptomycin 40 medium with or without 1 mM IPTG. Gridded plates were incubated 16 hours at 37°C, and then manually scored for arrayed colonies that were growth-compromised in the presence of IPTG.

Arrayed colonies that were growth-sensitive on medium containing 1 mM IPTG, yet were able to grow on similar medium lacking IPTG, were subjected to further growth sensitivity analysis as follows: Colonies from the plate lacking IPTG were manually picked and inoculated into individual wells of a 96 well culture dish containing LB + CB100 or Streptomycin 40, and were incubated for 16 hours at 30°C. These cultures were robotically diluted 1/100 into fresh medium and allowed to incubate for 4 hours at 37°C, after which they were subjected to serial dilutions in a 384 well array and then gridded onto media with and without 1 mM IPTG. After growth for 16 hours at 37°C, the arrays of serially diluted spots that resulted were compared between the two media. Clones that grew similarly at all dilutions on both media were scored as a negative and were no longer considered. Clones that grew on IPTG medium but failed to grow at the same serial dilution on the non-IPTG plate were given a score based on the differential, i.e. should the clone grow at a serial dilution of 10⁴ or less on the IPTG plate and grow at a serial dilution of 10⁸ or less on the IPTG plate, then the corresponding clone received a score of "4" representing the log difference in growth observed.

Following the identification of those vectors that, upon induction, negatively impacted *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* growth or proliferation, the inserts or nucleic acid fragments contained in those vectors were isolated for subsequent characterization. Vectors of interest were subjected to nucleic acid sequence determination.

Nucleic acids involved in proliferation of *E. faecalis* were identified as follows. Randomly generated fragments of genomic DNA were expressed from the vectors pEPEF3 or pEPEF14, which contain the CP25 or P59 promoter, respectively, regulated by the xyl operator/repressor. These plasmids as well as other vectors useful for the expression of nucleic acids in *Enterococcus faecalis* and other Gram positive organisms are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/032,393, filed December 21, 2001, the disclosure or which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Should the genomic DNA downstream of the promoter contain, in an antisense orientation, at least a portion of a mRNA encoding a gene product involved in proliferation, then induction of expression from the promoter will result in detectable inhibition of proliferation.

A shotgun library of *E. faecalis* genomic fragments was cloned into the vector pEPEF3 or pEPEF14, which harbor xylose inducible promoters. The vector was linearized at a unique *SmaI* site immediately downstream of the promoter/operator. The linearized vector was treated with alkaline phosphatase to prevent reclosure of the linearized ends. Genomic DNA isolated from *E. faecalis* strain OG1RF was partially digested with DNase I and "blunt-ended" by incubating with T4 DNA polymerase. Random genomic fragments between 200 and 800 base pairs in length were

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selected by gel purification. The size-selected genomic fragments were added to the linearized and dephosphorylated vector at a molar ratio of 2 to 1, and ligated to form a shotgun library.

The ligated products were transformed into electrocompetent E. coli strain TOP10 cells (Invitrogen) and plated on LB medium with erythromycin (Erm) at 150 μ g/ml. Resulting colonies numbering 5 x 10^5 or greater were scraped and combined, and were then subjected to plasmid purification.

The purified library was then transformed into electrocompetent *E. faecalis* strain OG1RF. Resulting transformants were plated on Todd-Hewitt (TH) agar with erythromycin at 10 μg/ml in order to generate 100 to 150 platings at 500 colonies per plating. The colonies were subjected to robotic picking and arrayed into wells of 384 well culture dishes. Each well contained 100 μl of THB + Erm 10 μg/ml. Inoculated 384 well dishes were incubated 16 hours at room temperature, and each well was robotically gridded onto solid TH agar + Erm with or without 5% xylose. Gridded plates were incubated 16 hours at 37°C, and then manually scored for arrayed colonies that were growth-compromised in the presence of xylose.

Arrayed colonies that were growth-sensitive on medium containing 5% xylose, yet were able to grow on similar medium lacking xylose, were subjected to further growth sensitivity analysis. Colonies from the plate lacking xylose were manually picked and inoculated into individual wells of a 96 well culture dish containing THB + Erm 10, and were incubated for 16 hours at 30°C. These cultures were robotically diluted 1/100 into fresh medium and allowed to incubate for 4 hours at 37°C, after which they were subjected to serial dilution on plates containing 5% xylose or plates lacking xylose. After growth for 16 hours at 37°C, the arrays of serially diluted spots that resulted were compared between the two media. Colonies that grew similarly on both media were scored as a negative and corresponding colonies were no longer considered. Colonies on xylose medium that failed to grow to the same serial dilution compared to those on the non-xylose plate were given a score based on the differential. For example, colonies on xylose medium that only grow to a serial dilution of -4 while they were able to grow to -8 on the non-xylose plate, then the corresponding transformant colony received a score of "4" representing the log difference in growth observed.

Following the identification of those vectors that, upon induction, negatively impacted E. faecalis growth or proliferation, the inserts or nucleic acid fragments contained in those expression vectors were isolated for subsequent characterization. The inserts in the vectors of interest were subjected to nucleotide sequence determination.

It will be appreciated that other restriction enzymes and other endonucleases or methodologies may be used to generate random genomic fragments. In addition, random genomic fragments may be generated by mechanical shearing. Sonication and nebulization are two such techniques commonly used for mechanical shearing of DNA.

EXAMPLE 2

Nucleotide Sequence Determination of Identified Clones Transribing Nucleic Acid Fragments with

Detrimental Effects on Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella

pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa or Salmonella typhimurium Proliferation

Plasmids from clones that received a dilution plating score of "2" or greater were isolated to obtain the genomic DNA insert responsible for growth inhibition as follows.

The nucleotide sequences of the nucleic acid sequences which inhibited the growth of *Escherichia coli* were determined using plasmid DNA isolated using QIAPREP (Qiagen, Valencia, CA) and methods supplied by the manufacturer. The primers used for sequencing the inserts were 5'-TGTTTATCAGACCGCTT - 3' (SEQ ID NO: 78586) and 5'-ACAATTTCACACAGCCTC - 3' (SEQ ID NO: 78587). These sequences flank the polylinker in pLEX5BA.

The nucleotide sequences of the nucleic acid sequences which inhibited the growth of *Staphylococcus aureus* were determined as follows. *Staphylococcus aureus* were grown in standard laboratory media (LB or TB with 15 ug/ml Chloramphenicol to select for the plasmid). Growth was carried out at 37°C overnight in culture tubes or 2 ml deep well microtiter plates.

Lysis of *Staphylococcus aureus* was performed as follows. Cultures (2-5 ml) were centrifuged and the cell pellets resuspended in 1.5 mg/ml solution of lysostaphin (20 μ l/ml of original culture) followed by addition of 250 μ l of resuspension buffer (Qiagen). Alternatively, cell pellets were resuspended directly in 250 μ l of resuspension buffer (Qiagen) to which 5-20 μ l of a 1 mg/ml lysostaphin solution were added.

DNA was isolated using Qiagen miniprep kits or Wizard (Qiagen) miniprep kits according to the instructions provided by the manufacturer.

The genomic DNA inserts were amplified from the purified plasmids by PCR as follows.

1 μl of Qiagen purified plasmid was put into a total reaction volume of 25 μl Qiagen Hot Start PCR mix. For *Staphylococcus aureus*, the following primers were used in the PCR reaction: pXylT5F: CAGCAGTCTGAGTTATAAAATAG (SEQ ID NO: 78588)

LexL TGTTTTATCAGACCGCTT (SEQ ID NO: 78589)

Similar methods were conducted for *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. For *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* the following primers were used:

30 5' - TGTTTTATCAGACCGCTT - 3' (SEQ ID NO: 78589) and

5'-ACAATTTCACACAGCCTC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 78587)

PCR was carried out in a PE GenAmp with the following cycle times:

Step 1. 95° C 15 min

Step 2. 94° C 45 sec

35 Step 3. 54° C 45 sec

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Step 4. 72° C 1 minute

Step 5. Return to step 2, 29 times

Step 6. 72° C 10 minutes

Step 7. 4° C hold

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The PCR products were cleaned using Qiagen Qiaquick PCR plates according to the manufacturer's instructions.

For *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, plasmids from transformant colonies that received a dilution plating score of "2" or greater were isolated to obtain the genomic DNA insert responsible for growth inhibition as follows. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* were grown in standard laboratory media (LB with carbenicillin at 100 μg/ml or Streptomycin 40 μg/ml to select for the plasmid). Growth was carried out at 30°C overnight in 100 ul culture wells in microtiter plates. To amplify insert DNA 2 ul of culture were placed into 25 ul Qiagen Hot Start PCR mix. PCR reactions were in 96 well microtiter plates. For plasmid pEP5S the following primers were used in the PCR reaction:

T7L1+: GTCGGCGATATAGGCGCCAGCAACCG (SEQ ID NO: 78590)

pStrA3: ATAATCGAGCATGAGTATCATACG (SEQ ID NO: 78591)

PCR was carried out in a PE GenAmp with the following cycle times:

Step 1. 95° C 15 min

15 Step 2. 94° C 45 sec

Step 3. 54° C 45 sec

Step 4. 72° C 1 minute

Step 5. Return to step 2, 29 times

Step 6. 72° C 10 minutes

20 Step 7. 4° C hold

The PCR products were cleaned using Qiagen Qiaquick PCR plates according to the manufacturer's instructions.

The purified PCR products were then directly cycle sequenced with Qiagen Hot Start PCR mix. The following primers were used in the sequencing reaction:

25 T7/L2: ATGCGTCCGGCGTAGAGGAT (SEQ ID NO: 78592)

PCR was carried out in a PE GenAmp with the following cycle times:

Step 1. 94° C 15 min

Step 2. 96° C 10 sec

Step 3. 50° C 5 sec

30 Step 4. 60 C 4 min

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Step 5. Return to step 2, 24 times

Step 6. 4° C hold

The PCR products were cleaned using Qiagen Qiaquick PCR plates according to the manufacturer's instructions.

For *E. faecalis*, plasmids from transformant colonies that received a dilution plating score of "2" or greater were isolated to obtain the genomic DNA insert responsible for growth inhibition as follows. *E. faecalis* were grown in THB 10 µg/ml Erm at 30°C overnight in 100 ul culture wells

in microtiter plates. To amplify insert DNA 2 ul of culture were placed into 25 μ l Qiagen Hot Start PCR mix. PCR reactions were in 96 well microtiter plates. The following primers were used in the PCR reaction:

pXyIT5: CAGCAGTCTGAGTTATAAAATAG (SEQ ID NO: 78588) and the

5 pEP/pAK1 primer.

PCR was carried out in a PE GenAmp with the following cycle times:

Step 1. 95° C 15 min

Step 2. 94° C 45 sec

Step 3. 54° C 45 sec

10 Step 4. 72° C 1 minute

Step 5. Return to step 2, 29 times

Step 6. 72° C 10 minutes

Step 7. 4° C hold

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The PCR products were cleaned using Qiagen Qiaquick PCR plates according to the manufacturer's instructions.

The purified PCR products were then directly cycle sequenced with Qiagen Hot Start PCR mix. The following primers were used in the PCR reaction:

pXyIT5: CAGCAGTCTGAGTTATAAAATAG (SEQ ID NO: 78588)

PCR was carried out in a PE GenAmp with the following cycle times:

20 Step 1. 94° C 15 min

Step 2. 96° C 10 sec

Step 3. 50° C 5 sec

Step 4. 60° C 4 min

Step 5. Return to step 2, 24 times

25 Step 6. 4° C hold

The PCR products were cleaned using Qiagen Qiaquick PCR plates according to the manufacturer's instructions.

The amplified genomic DNA inserts from each of the above procedures were subjected to automated sequencing. Sequence identification numbers (SEQ ID NOs) and clone names for the identified inserts are listed in Table IA and discussed below.

TABLE IA

Clone Name	S1M10000025G06	S1M10000025H06	S1M10000025H07	S1M10000025A08	S1M10000025D08	S1M10000025F08	S1M10000025H08	S1M10000025A09	S1M10000025B09	S1M10000025C09	S1M10000025D09	SIM10000025E09	S1M10000025F09	S1M10000025A10	S1M10000025C10	S1M10000025D10	S1M10000025F10	SIM10000025G10	S1M10000025H10	S1M10000025C11	S1M10000025E11	S1M10000025B12	S1M10000025F12	S1M10000026C01	S1M10000026E01	S1M10000026F01	S1M10000026G01	S1M10000026H01	S1M10000026A02	S1M10000026B02	S1M10000026H02	S11M10000020B03	CONTRACTOR
SeqID	4969	4970	4971	4972	4973	4974	4975	4976	4977	4978	4979	4980	4981	4982	4983	4984	4985	4986	4987	4988	4989	4990	4991	4992	4993	4994	4995	4996	4997	4998	4999	2000	2001
Clone Name	P1M10000105C04	P1M10000105D04	P1M10000105C05	P1M10000105B06	P1M10000105C08	P1M10000105H08	P1M10000105D09	P1M10000110E01	P1M10000110F01	P1M10000110G01	P1M10000110B02	P1M10000110B03	P1M10000110F03	P1M10000110G03	P1M10000110D04	P1M10000110F04	P1M10000110B05	P1M10000110E05	P1M10000110B07	P1M10000110B08	P1M10000110F08	P1M10000110A09	P1M10000110E09	P1M10000110F09	P1M10000100F01	P1M10000098A02	P1M10000098B02	P1M10000098A03	P1M10000098D03	P1M10000098E04	P1M10000098G04	P1M10000098A05	P1M10000098C05
SeqID	3727	3728	3729	3730	3731	3732	3733	3734	3735	3736	3737	3738	3739	3740	3741	3742	3743	3744	3745	3746	3747	3748	3749	3750	3751	3752	3753	3754	3755	3756	3757	3758	3759
Clone Name	E1M10000260G02	E1M10000260F04	E1M10000260A05	E1M10000260C05	E1M10000260E05	E1M10000260C07	E1M10000260G07	E1M10000260B08	E1M10000260D08	E1M10000260E08	E1M10000260E09	E1M10000260C10	E1M10000260D10	E1M10000260E10	E1M10000260G10	E1M10000260H10	E1M10000260H11	E1M10000260B12	E1M10000260D12	E1M10000260G12	E1M10000261F01	E1M10000261B02	E1M10000261H02	E1M10000261G04	E1M10000261H05	E1M10000261G06	E1M10000261H06	E1M10000261D08	E1M10000261F08	E1M10000261C09	E1M10000261H09	E1M10000261E10	E1M10000262E01
SeqID	2485	2486	2487	2488	2489	2490	2491	2492	2493	2494	2495	2496	2497	2498	2499	2500	2501	2502	2503	2504	2505	2506	2507	2508	2509	2510	2511	2512	2513	2514	2515	2516	2517
Clone Name	P33-1.C22	X3S107-17	P35-7	X3S118-9	X3S163-1	X3S204-7	X3S177-4	P342-3	SC21.1	SC17.1	SC13.1	9.60M	Z60-P16	Z86-121	E1M10000109A02	E1M10000109A11	E1M10000101F05	E1M10000101D06	E1M10000101A07	E1M10000101H07	E1M10000101H09	E1M10000101C12	E1M10000103B04	E1M10000103D11	E1M10000110G01	E1M10000110H01	E1M10000110E09	E1M10000110A12	E1M10000112F05	E1M10000113F02	E1M10000113A11	E1M10000111C03	E1M10000111E04
SeqID	1243	1244	1245	1246	1247	1248	1249	1250	1251	1252	1253	1254	1255	1256	1257	1258	1259	1260	1261	1262	1263	1264	1265	1266	1267	1268	1269	1270	1271	1272	1273	1274	1275
Clone Name	E3M10000001B01	E3M10000001A02	E3M10000001B02	E3M10000001C02	E3M10000001D02	E3M10000001E02	E3M10000001F02	E3M10000001G02	E3M10000001H02	E3M10000001E03	E3M10000001G03	E3M10000001H03	E3M10000001D04	E3M10000001E04	E3M10000001F04	E3M10000001G04	E3M10000001H04	E3M10000001B05	E3M10000001D05	E3M10000001G05			_		E3M10000001C09	E3M10000001D09	E3M10000001E09	E3M10000001B10	E3M10000004D01	E3M10000004G01	E3M10000004D02	E3M10000004C03	E3M10000004A04
SeaID	1	2	3	4	5	9	7	- 00	6	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33

Clone Name SIM10000026G03 SIM10000026H03 SIM10000026H04 SIM10000026CG04 SIM10000026G04 SIM10000026G04 SIM10000026G05 SIM10000026G05 SIM10000026G05 SIM10000026G06 SIM10000026G06 SIM10000026G06 SIM10000026G06 SIM10000026G07	S1M10000026G08 S1M10000026E09 S1M10000026E09 S1M10000026H09 S1M10000026H10
SeqID 5002 5003 5004 5004 5005 5005 5004 5007 5008 5009 5010 5011 5012 5012 5013 5010 5010 5010 5020 5020 5020 5020 5020	5032 5033 5034 5035 5036 5036
Clone Name PIM10000098G06 PIM10000098H06 PIM10000098H06 PIM10000098H09 PIM10000098H09 PIM10000099H11 PIM10000099G03 PIM10000099G12 PIM10000099G10 PIM10000099F10 PIM10000099F10 PIM10000106H03 PIM10000106H03 PIM10000106H03 PIM10000106H03 PIM10000106H03 PIM10000106H03 PIM10000106H03 PIM10000106H03 PIM10000107C03 PIM10000107C03 PIM10000107C04 PIM10000107C09 PIM10000107C09	P1M10000107H10 P1M10000108C01 P1M10000108A02 P1M10000108B02 P1M10000108B03
SeqID 3760 3761 3762 3765 3765 3766 3765 3766 3770 3771 3775 3775 3775 3778 3778 3778 3780 3781 3782 3788 3788 3788 3788 3788 3788 3788	3790 3791 3792 3793 3794 3795
Clone Name E1M10000262C02 E1M10000262E02 E1M10000262E03 E1M10000262C04 E1M10000262C05 E1M10000262C05 E1M10000262E07 E1M10000262E07 E1M10000262E07 E1M10000262E07 E1M10000262E07 E1M10000263E10 E1M10000263E11	E1M10000264F03 E1M10000264A04 E1M10000264B04 E1M10000264C04 E1M10000264E04
SeqID 2518 2519 2520 2521 2521 2522 2523 2524 2524 2528 2528 2528 2529 2539 2539 2539 2534 2534 2534 2534 2534 2534 2534 2534	2548 2549 2550 2551 2552 2553
Clone Name E1M10000111F09 E1M10000115H01 E1M10000115G04 E1M10000115G04 E1M10000116G02 E1M10000106G02 E1M10000106F05 E1M10000106H05 E1M10000106G02 E1M10000106G09 E1M10000106G09 E1M10000106G10 E1M100001023B03 E1M10000123B03 E1M10000123H10 E1M10000123H11 E1M10000123H11 E1M10000123H11 E1M10000123H11 E1M10000107G02 E1M10000107G02 E1M10000107G02 E1M10000107G03 E1M10000107G03	E1M10000107F09 E1M10000107H09 E1M10000117C12 E1M10000118C04 E1M10000118B05 E1M10000118C05
SeqID 1276 1277 1277 1277 1280 1282 1283 1284 1288 1288 1289 1290 1290 1290 1290 1290 1290 1290 129	1306 1307 1308 1309 1310
	E3M10000006G12 E3M10000006G12 E3M10000007F01 E3M10000007A02 E3M10000007A02
SeqID 36 38 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39	64 65 67 67 69

Clone Name	S1M10000026B10	SIM10000026D10	S1M10000026E10	S1M10000026F10	S1M10000026G10	S1M10000026H10	S1M10000026A11	S1M10000026B11	S1M10000026C11	S1M10000026E11	S1M10000026B12	S1M10000026C12	SIM10000026D12	SIM10000026E12	S1M10000026F12	S1M10000026G12	S1M10000027G01	S1M10000027C02	S1M10000027D02	S1M10000027E02	S1M1000002/F02	S1M1000002/H02	S1M1000002/D03	S1M1000002/E03	S1M1000002/G03	S1M1000002/A04	S1M1000002/C04	S1M1000002/G04	SIM1000002/H04	SIM1000002/A05	S1M1000002/C05	SIMIO00002/D03	SIM1000002/E05	S1M1000002/F05	S1M1000002/G05	
SeqID	5038	5039	5040	5041	5042	5043	5044	5045	5046	5047	5048	5049	2050	5051	5052	5053	5054	5055	2056	5057	5058	5059	2060	5061	5062	5063	5064	5065	2066	5067	5068	5069	5070	5071	2/05	le/ne
Clone Name	P1M10000108G04	P1M10000108E05	P1M10000108F05	P1M10000108F06	P1M10000108G06	P1M10000109A02	P1M10000109C03	P1M10000109E03	P1M10000109D04	P1M10000109A05	P1M10000109B08	P1M10000109H09	P1M10000109E10	P1M10000109F10	P1M10000109E11	P1M10000109B12	S4M10000001C01	S4M10000002G04	S4M10000002B06	S4M10000002G08	S4M10000002B09	S4M10000019H06	S4M10000008H10	S4M10000009E03	S4M10000009C06	S4M10000009E07	S4M10000009G08	S4M10000009B11	S4M10000009F11	S4M100000009G11	S4M10000010F04	S4M10000010H04	S4M10000010B05	S4M10000010D07	S4M10000010D08	S4M10000010B09
SeqID	3796	3797	3798	3799	3800	3801	3802	3803	3804	3805	3806	3807	3808	3809	3810	3811	3812	3813	3814	3815	3816	3817	3818	3819	3820	3821	3822	3823	3824	3825	3826	3827	3828	3829	3830	3831
Clone Name	E1M10000264B05	E1M10000264B06	E1M10000264G09	E1M10000264D11	E1M10000264F11	E1M10000264H11	E1M10000264B12	E1M10000264C12	E1M10000265A02	E1M10000265E02	E1M10000265G02	E1M10000265D04	E1M10000265F04	E1M10000265E05	E1M10000265H05	E1M10000265C09	E1M10000265E09	E1M10000265F09	E1M10000265H10	E1M10000265A11	E1M10000265B11	E1M10000265C11	E1M10000266D02	E1M10000266H02	E1M10000266F04	E1M10000266H04	E1M10000266H05	E1M10000266B06	E1M10000266F11	E1M10000267F01	E1M10000267E04	E1M10000267A05	E1M10000267B05			E1M10000267E09
SeqID	2554	2555	2556	2557	2558	2559	2560	2561	2562	2563	2564	2565	2566	2567	2568	2569	2570	2571	2572	2573	2574	2575	2576	2577	2578	2579	2580	2581	2582	2583	2584	2585	2586	2587	2588	2589
Clone Name	E1M10000118G06	E1M10000119D02	E1M10000119D03	E1M10000119A04	E1M10000131H01	E1M10000131F04	E1M10000131C06	E1M10000131B07	E1M10000131C07	E1M10000131A10	E1M10000131G10	E1M10000135B02	E1M10000132C01	E1M10000132F02	E1M10000132H04	E1M10000132G08	E1M10000133A06	E1M10000133B08	E1M10000133D09	E1M10000144B01	E1M10000144C02	E1M10000144E03	E1M10000144F03	E1M10000144B06	E1M10000144G06	E1M10000144G07	E1M10000144A08	E1M10000144C10	E1M10000145E01	E1M10000146H01	E1M10000146D02	E1M10000146E05	E1M10000124E02	E1M10000124G03	E1M10000124G04	E1M10000124C05
SeqID	1312	1313	1314	1315	1316	1317	1318	1319	1320	1321	1322	1323	1324	1325	1326	1327	1328	1329	1330	1331	1332	1333	1334	1335	1336	1337	1338	1339	1340	1341	1342	1343	1344	1345	1346	1347
Clone Name	E3M10000007B03	E3M10000007C03																			_						E3M10000010G07		E3M10000010G09	E3M10000010G10		E3M10000011B03	E3M10000011D03			E3M10000011B09
SeaID	70	7	77	73	74	75	9/	77	78	0, 0,	`	81	82	83	8 8	85	98	87	× ×	68	06	91	92	93	94	95	96	. 97	98	66	100	101	102	103	104	105

Clone Name	\$1M1000002/B06	90072000011A12	S11M10000027E06	SIMILU000002/E00	S1M1000002/F00	SIM1000002/G00	S1M10000027H06	S1M1000002/B0/	S1M10000027D07	S1M10000027E07	S1M10000027G07	S1M1000002/H0/	S1M110000027A001	S1M1000002/B08	S1M1000002/C08	S1M1000002/D08	SIM1000002/E08	S1M1000002/F08	S1M1000002/G08	SIM1000002/H08	S1M1000002/B09	S1M1000002/C09	S1M1000002/D09	S1M10000027E09	S1M1000002/F09	S1M1000002/G09	S1M1000002/HU9	S1M1000002/D10	SIM1000002/H10	SIM1000002/A11	SIM1000002/B11			SIM1000002/G11		
SeqID	5074	2000	20/0	7/00	20/8	5079	5080	5081	5082	5083	5084	5085	2080	2087	5088	5089	2090	5091	5092	5093	5094	5095	2096	5097	5098	5099	5100	5101	5102	5103	5104	5105	5106	5107	5108	2103
Clone Name	S4M10000010C09	S4M10000010D09	S4M10000010D10	S4M10000011F05	S4M10000011D08	S4M10000011A09	S4M10000011F09	S4M10000011E10	S4M10000011F10	S4M10000011D11	S4M10000012H03	S4M10000012B06	S4M10000012B12	S4M10000013D02	S4M10000013H02	S4M10000014H02	S4M10000014B05	S4M10000014D07	S4M10000015E09	S4M10000015B11	S4M10000016A02	S4M10000020F08	S4M10000021E07	S4M10000022B02	S4M10000022D04	S4M10000022B05	S4M10000022G07	S4M10000022D12	S4M10000022E12	S4M10000024G01	S4M10000024G04	S4M10000024C06	S4M10000024F08	S4M10000024G09	S4M10000024C11	S4IM110000023E02
SeqID	3832	3833	3834	3835	3836	3837	3838	3839	3840	3841	3842	3843	3844	3845	3846	3847	3848	3849	3850	3851	3852	3853	3854	3855	3856	3857	3858	3859	3860	3861	3862	3863	3864	3865	3866	786/
Clone Name	E1M10000267G09	E1M10000267H09	E1M10000267A10	E1M10000267E10	E1M10000267C11	E1M10000267E11	E1M10000267B12	E1M10000267E12	E1M10000268F03	E1M10000268D04	E1M10000268E04	E1M10000268F06	E1M10000268E07	E1M10000268A08	E1M10000268B08	E1M10000268D08	E1M10000268G08	E1M10000268B09	E1M10000268E09	E1M10000268F09	E1M10000268G09	E1M10000268E10	E1M10000268A11	E1M10000268G11	E1M10000268G12	E1M10000269D01	E1M10000269B02	E1M10000269D03	E1M10000269D04	E1M10000269H04	E1M10000269B05	E1M10000269D05	E1M10000269H05	E1M10000269A06	E1M10000269E07	E1M10000269F07
SeqID	2590	2591	2592	2593	2594	2595	2596	2597	2598	2599	2600	2601	2602	2603	2604	2605	2606	2607	2608	2609	2610	2611	2612	2613	2614	2615	2616	2617	2618	2619	2620	2621	2622	2623	2624	2625
Clone Name	E1M10000124E06	E1M10000124D09	E1M10000125A02	E1M10000125F07	E1M10000125F09	E1M10000120F01	E1M10000120E04	E1M10000120E05	E1M10000120A06	E1M10000120F06	E1M10000120A10	E1M10000120G10	E1M10000136C01	E1M10000136H01	E1M10000136E02	E1M10000136B03	E1M10000136D03	E1M10000121D01	E1M10000121G05	E1M10000121F06	E1M10000121E07	E1M10000121D08	E1M10000129G04	E1M10000129F10	E1M10000129F11	E1M10000126E08	E1M10000126F12	E1M10000127D03	E1M10000127C09	E1M10000127D09	E1M10000137C03	E1M10000137C04	E1M10000137E07	E1M10000137B08	E1M10000137G09	E1M10000137C11
SeqID	1348	1349	1350	1351	1352	1353	1354	1355	1356	1357	1358	1359	1360	1361	1362	1363	1364	1365	1366	1367	1368	1369	1370	1371	1372	1373	1374	1375	1376	1377	1378	1379	1380	1381	1382	1383
Clone Name		E3M10000012C01	E3M10000012B02	E3M10000012G02	E3M10000012F05								E3M10000013D02																E3M10000015B12			E3M10000016D03			_	E3M10000016F06
SeqID	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141

Clone Name	S1M10000028E01	S1M10000028G01	S1M10000028A02	S1M10000028B02	S1M10000028C02	S1M10000028G02	S1M10000028B03	C1M10000022003	S11M10000028203	S1M10000028E03	S1M10000028F03	SIM10000028G05	S1M10000026103	SIMILOU00020A04	S1M10000028B04	S1M10000028C04	S1M10000028D04	S1M10000028E04	S1M10000028F04	S1M10000028G04	S1M10000028B05	S1M10000028C05	S1M10000028D05	S1M10000028F05	S1M10000028G05	CUH87000001111S	S1M10000028A00	S1M10000028B06	S1M10000028C06	S1M10000028D06	S1M10000028F06	S1M10000028G06	S1M10000028D07	S1M10000028F07	SIM10000028H07	loowozooooninic
SeqID	5110	5112	5113	5114	5115	5116	5117	5110	2110	2119	5120	5121	2177	5173	5124	5125	5126	5127	5128	5129	5130	5131	5132	5133	5134	5135	5136	5137	5138	5139	5140	5141	5142	5143	5144	2145
Clone Name	S4M10000025E05	SAM100000251101	S4M100000251111	S4M10000026C01	S4M10000026E03	S4M10000026D04	S4141000002553	24M10000020D10	S4M10000020E12	S4M10000027E02	S4M10000027C10	S4M10000029B12	S4M10000029D12	S4M10000030F06	S4M10000030F07	S4M10000032F01	S4M10000032G01	S4M10000032F03	S4M10000034A02	S4M10000034C05	S4M10000034H05	S4M10000034A06	S4M10000034A09	S4M10000034H09	S4M10000035B01	S4M10000035D01	S4M10000035F02	S4M10000035E03	S4M10000035B06	S4M10000035A09	S4M10000036F06	S4M10000036B09	S4M10000036H11	S4M10000037A03	S4M10000037A08	S4M10000037H09
SeqID	3868	2002	3871	3872	3873	2874	1000	58/5	3876	3877	3878	3879	3880	3881	3882	3883	3884	3885	3886	3887	3888	3889	3890	3891	3892	3893	3894	3895	3896	3897	3898	3899	3900	3901	3902	3903
Clone Name	E1M10000269E10	E1M10000209D11	E1M10000269C12	E11410000203012	E1M100002/1F02	E114(100002/1102	E11M100002/1E03	E1M100002/1G03	E1M10000271B04	E1M10000271G04	E1M10000271B05	E1M10000271E05	E1M10000271C07	E1M10000271G07	E1M10000271G10	E1M10000271F11	E1M10000271E12	E1M10000271F12	E1M10000272F02	E1M10000272G03	E1M10000272A04	E1M10000272F05	E1M10000272A06	E1M10000272B06	E1M10000272H07	E1M10000272B08	E1M10000272C08	E1M10000272D08	E1M10000272G08	E1M10000272H08	E1M10000272C09	E1M10000272D09	E1M10000272G09	E1M10000272H09	E1M10000273E01	E1M10000273D02
SeqID	2626	1707	8797	6707	2630	2632	7607	2633	2634	2635	2636	2637	2638	2639	2640	2641	2642	2643	2644	2645	2646	2647	2648	2649	2650	2651	2652	2653	2654	2655	2656	2657	2658	2659	2660	2661
Clone Name	E1M10000139B07	EIMI0000139E10	E1M10000139B11	E1M10000140B03	E1M10000142H05	E1M10000142D03	E1M10000142F12	E1M10000143D03	E1M10000143A09	E1M10000143G09	E1M10000143A12	E1M10000147B03	E1M10000147D05	E1M10000148C02	E1M10000148D08	E1M10000148B09	E1M10000148H09	E1M10000155C02	E1M10000155F04	E1M10000155B05	E1M10000155A06	E1M10000155C06	E1M10000155B11	E1M10000155F12	E1M10000152B01	E1M10000152G01	E1M10000152G03	E1M10000152F04	E1M10000152H04	E1M10000152B05	E1M10000152B06	F1M10000152C08	E1M10000152H08	E1M10000152E09	E1M10000153H03	E1M10000153C04
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Clone Name	E3M10000016F10	E3M10000016H10	E3M10000017A09	E3M1000001/D09	E3M10000018E01	E3M10000018C02	E3M10000018H06	E3M10000018A07	E3M10000018G09	E3M10000019D02	E3M10000019E03	E3M10000019E04	E3M10000019B06	E3M10000020G04	E3M10000020H05	E3M10000021C03	E3M10000021C04	E3M10000021D04	E3M1000001G04	E3M10000021A08	E3M10000021C08	E3M10000021B10	E3M10000021E10	E3M10000021G10	E3M10000021A11	E3M10000021G11	E3M10000021H11	E3M10000022G02	E3M10000022A04	F3M10000022B04	E3M10000022D04	F3M1000002B05	E3M10000022C05			E3M10000022F06
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Clone Name	S1M10000029B08	S1M10000029G00	S1M10000029H08	S1M10000029A09	S1M10000029C09	S1M10000029D09	S1M10000029F09	S1M10000029H09	S1M10000029A10	S1M10000029B10	S1M10000029C10	S1M10000029D10	SIM10000029E10	S1M10000029F10	SIM10000029H10	S1M10000029A11	S1M10000029E11	S1M10000029F11	S1M10000029A12	S1M10000029C12	S1M10000029D12	S1M10000029F12	S1M10000029G12	S1M10000030B01	SIM10000030D01	S1M10000030F01	SIM10000030H01	SIM10000030A02	SIM10000030B0Z	S1M10000030C02	S1M10000030D02	S1M10000030E02	S1M10000030H02	S1M10000030B03	S1M10000030C03	I compromentation
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Clone Name	E1M10000168G02	E1M10000168A03	E1M10000168A04	E1M10000169H02	E1M10000176C01	E1M10000176F01	E1M10000184C01	E1M10000184G02	E1M10000184C06	E1M10000184F08	E1M10000184G08	E1M10000184C09	E1M10000184F09	E1M10000184F10	E1M10000184G12	E1M10000185D01	E1M10000185A02	E1M10000185B03	E1M10000186A02	E1M10000186F03	E1M10000186G03	E1M10000186A04	E1M10000186A08	E1M10000186H10	E1M10000186E11	E1M10000186G12	E1M10000187D01	E1M10000187G04	E1M10000187D06	E1M10000187G06	E1M10000187G09	E1M10000187A10	E1M10000187G10	E1M10000187H10	E1M10000187F11	E1M10000187G11
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Clone Name	E3M10000051C09	E3M10000051D09	E3M10000051E09	E3M10000051G09	E3M10000051H09	E3M10000051A10	E3M10000051B10	E3M10000051D10	E3M10000051E10	E3M10000051F10	E3M10000051H10	E3M10000051A11	E3M10000051D11	E3M10000051E11	E3M10000051F11	E3M10000051G11	E3M10000051F12	E3M10000050E01	E3M10000050G01	E3M10000050B03	E3M10000050C03	E3M10000050D03	E3M10000050E03	E3M10000050A04	E3M10000050E04	E3M10000050H08	E3M10000052C01	E3M10000052F01	E3M10000052C02	E3M10000052D02	E3M10000052G02	E3M10000052B03	E3M10000052E03	E3M10000052G03	E3M10000052B04	E3M10000052F04
SeqID	1114	1115	1116	1117	1118	1119	1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126	1127	1128	1129	1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136	1137	1138	1139	1140	1141	1142	1143	1144	1145	1146	1147	1148	1149

<u> </u>	
Clone Name SIM10000047G08 SIM10000047A09 SIM10000047B09 SIM10000047D09 SIM10000047E09 SIM10000047E09 SIM10000047E10 SIM10000047B10 SIM10000047B11 SIM10000047F11 SIM10000047F11 SIM10000047F11 SIM10000047F11 SIM10000047F11 SIM10000047F11 SIM10000047F11 SIM10000047F11 SIM10000047F12	S1M10000048A0Z S1M10000048B0Z S1M10000048C0Z
SeqID 6118 6119 6120 6121 6122 6123 6124 6134 6135 6136 6137 6138 6138 6139 6138 6140 6141 6142 6143 6143 6143 6144 6144 6145 6148	6151 6152 6153
Clone Name SIM10000023G06 SIM10000023H06 SIM10000023B07 SIM10000023B07 SIM10000023B07 SIM10000023B08 SIM10000023H07 SIM10000023H07 SIM10000023H09 SIM10000023H09 SIM10000023H09 SIM10000023H10 SIM10000023H10 SIM10000023H10 SIM10000023H10 SIM10000023H11	S1M10000023F12 S1M10000024D01 S1M10000024A02
8eqID 4878 4878 4878 4879 4881 4882 4883 4884 4884 4884 4884 4889 4889 4899 489	4909 4910 4911
Clone Name P1M10000060H02 P1M10000060E03 P1M10000079E06 P1M10000079F06 P1M10000079B10 P1M10000079C10 P1M10000079B10 P1M10000080B01 P1M10000080B01 P1M10000080B01 P1M10000080B01 P1M10000081G05 P1M10000081H05 P1M10000081H05 P1M10000082B02 P1M10000082B02 P1M10000082B02 P1M10000082B02 P1M10000082B01	P1M10000085D06 P1M10000086B01 P1M10000086E01
SeqID 3634 3635 3635 3636 3636 3640 3640 3640 3640 3640 3640	3667 3668 3669
Clone Name E1M10000253C10 E1M10000253D10 E1M10000253B11 E1M10000253B11 E1M10000253B12 E1M10000254A03 E1M10000254A03 E1M10000254A04 E1M10000254A04 E1M10000254B06 E1M10000254B06 E1M10000254B06 E1M10000254B06 E1M10000254B06 E1M10000254B09 E1M10000254B09 E1M10000254B09 E1M10000254B09 E1M10000254B09 E1M10000254B09 E1M10000254B09 E1M10000255B09 E1M10000255B08 E1M10000255B08 E1M10000255B08 E1M10000255B09 E1M10000255B09 E1M10000255B09	E1M10000255B10 E1M10000256F01 E1M10000256B02
SeqID 23393 23393 23394 23394 23394 2403 2403 2403 2403 2403 2403 2403 2413 2413 2413 2413 2413 2413 2413 241	2425 2426 2427
Clone Name E3M10000052G04 E3M10000052D05 E3M10000052D05 E3M10000052G06 E3M10000052B07 E3M100000052B07 E3M100000052B07 E3M10000005	R1-15.A13 R1-19.H1 R1-55.M2
SeqID 1150 1151 1152 1153 1154 1155 1156 1160 1160 1160 1160 1160 1160	1183 1184 1185

Clone Name	S1M10000048D02	S1M10000048E02	S1M10000048F02	S1M10000048G02	S1M10000048H02	S1M10000048A03	S1M10000048B03	S1M10000048C03	S1M10000048E03	S1M10000048F03	S1M10000048G03	S1M10000048H03	S1M10000048E04	S1M10000048G04	S1M10000048H04	S1M10000048A05	S1M10000048B05	S1M10000048C05	S1M10000048F05	S1M10000048G05	S1M10000048H05	S1M10000048A06	S1M10000048B06	S1M10000048C06	S1M10000048E06	S1M10000048A07	S1M10000048C07	S1M10000048E07	S1M10000048F07	S1M10000048G07	S1M10000048H07	S1M10000048B08	S1M10000048C08	S1M10000048D08	S1M10000048E08	S1M10000048F08
SeqID	6154	6155	6156	6157	6158	6159	6160	6161	6162	6163	6164	6165	6166	6167	6168	6169	6170	6171	6172	6173	6174	6175	6176	6177	6178	6179	6180	6181	6182	6183	6184	6185	6186	6187	6188	6189
Clone Name	S1M10000024C02	S1M10000024D02	S1M10000024F02	S1M10000024H02	S1M10000024D03	S1M10000024E03	S1M10000024F03	S1M10000024A04	S1M10000024C04	S1M10000024D04	S1M10000024H04	S1M10000024B05	S1M10000024E05	S1M10000024F05	S1M10000024G05	S1M10000024B06	S1M10000024E06	S1M10000024G06	S1M10000024H06	S1M10000024A07	S1M10000024C07	S1M10000024E07	S1M10000024G07	S1M10000024H07	S1M10000024A08	S1M10000024B08	S1M10000024E08	S1M10000024F08	S1M10000024G08	S1M10000024H08	S1M10000024B09	S1M10000024B10	S1M10000024D10	S1M10000024F10	S1M10000024G10	SIM10000024A11
SeqID	4912	4913	4914	4915	4916	4917	4918	4919	4920	4921	4922	4923	4924	4925	4926	4927	4928	4929	4930	4931	4932	4933	4934	4935	4936	4937	4938	4939	4940	4941	4942	4943	4944	4945	4946	4947
Clone Name	P1M10000086A02	P1M10000086D02	P1M10000086E05	P1M10000087E04	P1M10000087F04	P1M10000087C09	P1M10000087F09	P1M10000087A11	P1M10000088C04	P1M10000088A07	P1M10000089G08	P1M10000089D11	P1M10000090E01	P1M10000090F06	P1M10000090F08	P1M10000090B11	P1M10000091A09	P1M10000091E09	P1M10000091G10	P1M10000092B02	P1M10000092E02	P1M10000092B04	P1M10000092F05	P1M10000092F06	P1M10000092D09	P1M10000092B10	P1M10000092B12	P1M10000093A03	P1M10000093B03	P1M10000093F03	P1M10000093H07	P1M10000093C08	P1M10000093B09	P1M10000093E09	P1M10000094H03	P1M10000094F04
SeqID	3670	3671	3672	3673	3674	3675	3676	3677	3678	3679	3680	3681	3682	3683	3684	3685	3686	3687	3688	3689	3690	3691	3692	3693	3694	3695	3696	3697	3698	3699	3700	3701	3702	3703	3704	3705
Clone Name		E1M10000256A04	E1M10000256C05	E1M10000256E07	E1M10000256E09	E1M10000256A10	E1M10000256F10	E1M10000256C12	E1M10000257C01	E1M10000257G01	E1M10000257A02	E1M10000257D02	E1M10000257H02	E1M10000257C03	E1M10000257F04	E1M10000257G04	E1M10000257B05	E1M10000257D05	E1M10000257F06	E1M10000257G07	E1M10000257H07	E1M10000257H08	E1M10000257A09	E1M10000257D09	E1M10000257G10	E1M10000257H10	E1M10000257A11	E1M10000257C11	E1M10000257F11	E1M10000257B12	E1M10000257F12	E1M10000258C01	E1M10000258H02	E1M10000258G03		E1M10000258C04
SeqID	2428	2429	2430	2431	2432	2433	2434	2435	2436	2437	2438	2439	2440	2441	2442	2443	2444	2445	2446	2447	2448	2449	2450	2451	2452	2453	2454	2455	2456	2457	2458	2459	2460	2461	2462	2463
Clone Name	Z45-F11	68-82	E1M10000007B04	227-10	709-F23	801-C15	801-H19	804-P6	807-D20	B13-17.G8	B5-6.C8	B8-2.D9	B15-8.P13	T13-5.A2	T12-3.111	T20-15.D4	T24-15.G6	T24-17.C6	244.B12	1042-11	195.F5	25.D5	25.D6	177.F3	525.H11	632.N2	633.B7	671.120	676.B12	643.B19	720.016	666.H12	98.D4	844.B21	P31-25-F3	P335-8.H8
SeqID	1186	1187	1188	1189	1190	1191	1192	1193	1194	1195	1196	1197	1198	1199	1200	1201	1202	1203	1204	1205	1206	1207	1208	1209	1210	1211	1212	1213	1214	1215	1216	1217	1218	1219	1220	1221

Clone Name	S1M10000048H08	S1M10000048A09	S1M10000048C09	S1M10000048D09	S1M10000048E09	S1M10000048F09	S1M10000048H09	S1M10000048A10	S1M10000048B10	S1M10000048C10	S1M10000048D10	S1M10000048E10	S1M10000048G10	S1M10000048H10	S1M10000048A11	S1M10000048C11	S1M10000048D11	S1M10000048F11	S1M10000048G11	S1M10000048H11	S1M10000048A12
SeqID	6190	6191	6192	6193	6194	6195	6196	. 6197	6198	.6199	6200	6201	6202	6203	6204	6205	9079	6207	6208	6209	6210
Clone Name	S1M10000024D11	S1M10000024G12	S1M10000025B01	S1M10000025C01	S1M10000025D01	S1M10000025E01	S1M10000025B02	S1M10000025A03	S1M10000025B03	S1M10000025C03	S1M10000025D03	S1M10000025F03	S1M10000025D04	S1M10000025E04	S1M10000025G04	· S1M10000025B05	S1M10000025C05	S1M10000025F05	S1M10000025H05	S1M10000025B06	S1M10000025D06
SeqID	4948	4949	4950	4951	4952	4953	4954	4955	4956	4957	4958	4959	4960	4961	4962	4963	4964	4965	4966	4967	4968
Clone Name	P1M10000094H04	P1M10000094A10	P1M10000095C01	P1M10000095E04	P1M10000095G04	P1M10000095C09	P1M10000102E05	P1M10000102B07	P1M10000103B05	P1M10000103D06	P1M10000103E08	P1M10000104A02	P1M10000104H02	P1M10000104A03	P1M10000104E03	P1M10000104F07	P1M10000104D11	P1M10000105D01	P1M10000105E02	P1M10000105C03	P1M10000105G03
SeqID	3706	3707	3708	3709	3710	3711	3712	3713	3714	3715	3716	3717	3718	3719	3720	3721	3722	3723	3724	3725	3726
Clone Name	E1M10000258G04	E1M10000258C05	E1M10000258D05	E1M10000258F05	E1M10000258G05	E1M10000258A06	E1M10000258D06	E1M10000258B07	E1M10000258G07	E1M10000258G08	E1M10000258B09	E1M10000258D09	E1M10000258F10	E1M10000258C11	E1M10000258F11	E1M10000259C03	E1M10000259B04	E1M10000259E04	E1M10000259E05	E1M10000259B12	E1M10000260E02
SeqID	2464																				2484
Clone Name	P347.2	P31-11-J20	P336-14.F20	P31-27-M1	P338-4.M21	P334-8.L7	. P31-2-E16	P335-3.J14	P334-5.H2	P31-33-N2	P332-11.C20	869.A23	P317-2.A3	P326-9.K2	P323-8.P1	P35-8	P36-13.E2	P38-1.G20	P327-50.M10	P328-8.D21	P328-20.P20
SeqID	1222	1223	1224	1225	1226	1227	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234	1235	1236	1237	1238	1239	1240	1241	1242

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EXAMPLE 3

Comparison Of Isolated Nucleic Acids to Known Sequences

The nucleotide sequences of the subcloned fragments from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Salmonella typhimurium obtained from the expression vectors discussed above were compared to known sequences from Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhimurium and other microorganisms as follows. First, to confirm that each clone originated from one location on the chromosome and was not chimeric, the nucleotide sequences of the selected clones were compared against the Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa or Salmonella typhimurium genomic sequences to align the clone to the correct position on the chromosome. The NCBI BLASTN v 2.0.9 program was used for this comparison, and the incomplete Staphylococcus aureus genomic sequences licensed from TIGR, as well as the NCBI nonredundant GenBank database were used as the source of genomic data. Salmonella typhimurium sequences were compared to sequences available from the Genome Sequencing Center (http://genome.wustl.edu/gsc/salmonella.shtml), and the Sanger Centre (http://www.sanger.ac.uk/projects/S typhi). Pseudomonas aeruginosa sequences were compared to a proprietary database and the NCBI GenBank database. The E. faecalis sequences were compared to a proprietary database.

The BLASTN analysis was performed using the default parameters except that the filtering was turned off. No further analysis was performed on inserts which resulted from the ligation of multiple fragments.

In general, antisense molecules and their complementary genes are identified as follows. First, all possible full length open reading frames (ORFs) are extracted from available genomic databases. Such databases include the GenBank nonredundant (nr) database, the unfinished genome database available from TIGR and the PathoSeq database developed by Incyte Genomics. The latter database comprises over 40 annotated bacterial genomes including complete ORF analysis. If databases are incomplete with regard to the bacterial genome of interest, it is not necessary to extract all ORFs in the genome but only to extract the ORFs within the portions of the available genomic sequences which are complementary to the clones of interest. Computer algorithms for identifying ORFs, such as GeneMark, are available and well known to those in the art. Comparison of the clone DNA to the complementary ORF(s) allows determination of whether the clone is a sense or antisense clone. Furthermore, each ORF extracted from the database can be compared to sequences in well annotated databases including the GenBank (nr) protein database, SWISSPROT and the like. A description of the gene or of a closely related gene in a closely related microorganism is often available in these databases. Similar methods are used to identify antisense clones corresponding to genes encoding non-translated RNAs.

In order to generate the gene identification data compiled in Table IB, each of the cloned nucleic acid sequences discussed above corresponding to SEQ ID NO.s 1-6213 was used to identify the corresponding *Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococcus faecalis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa* or *Salmonella typhimurium* ORFs in the PathoSeq v.4.1 (March 2000 release) database of microbial genomic sequences. For this purpose, the NCBI BLASTN 2.0.9 computer algorithm was used. The default parameters were used except that filtering was turned off. The default parameters for the BLASTN and BLASTX analyses were:

Expectation value (e)=10

Alignment view options: pairwise

Filter query sequence (DUST with BLASTN, SEG with others)=T

Cost to open a gap (zero invokes behavior)=0

Cost to extend a gap (zero invokes behavior)=0

X dropoff value for gapped alignment (in bits) (zero invokes behavior)=0

Show GI's in deflines=F

Penalty for a nucleotide mismatch (BLASTN only)=!3

Reward for a nucleotide match (BLASTN only)=1

Number of one-line descriptions (V)=500

Number of alignments to show (B)=250

Threshold for extending hits=default

20 Perform gapped alignment (not available with BLASTX)=T

Query Genetic code to use=1

DB Genetic code (for TBLAST[nx] only=1

Number of processors to use=1

SeqAlign file

25 Believe the query defline=F

Matrix=BLOSUM62

Word Size= default

Effective length of the database (use zero for the real size)=0

Number of best hits from a region to keep=100

Length of region used to judge hits=20

Effective length of the search space (use zero for the real size)=0

Query strands to search against database (for BLAST[nx] and TBLASTX), 3 is both, 1 is top, 2 is bottom=3

Produce HTML output=F

Troduce IIIvin output

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Alternatively, ORFs were identified and refined by conducting a survey of the public and private data sources. Full-length gene protein and nucleotide sequences for these organisms were assembled from various sources. For *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, gene sequences were adopted from the Pseudomonas genome sequencing project (downloaded from http://www.pseudomonas.com). For *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Salmonella typhi*, genomic sequences from PathoSeq v 4.1 (Mar 2000 release) was reanalyzed for ORFs using the gene finding software GeneMark v 2.4a, which was purchased from GenePro Inc. 451 Bishop St., N.W., Suite B, Atlanta, GA, 30318, USA.

Antisense clones were identified as those clones for which transcription from the inducible promoter would result in the expression of an RNA antisense to a complementary ORF, intergenic

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or intragenic sequence. Those clones containing single inserts and that caused growth sensitivity upon induction are listed in Table IA.

The gene descriptions in the PathoSeq database derive from annotations available in the public sequence databases described above. Where a clone was found to share significant sequence identity to two or more adjacent ORFs, it was listed once for each ORF and the PathoSeq information for each ORF was compiled in Table IB.

Table IA lists the SEQ ID NOs. and clone names of the inserts which inhibited proliferation. This information was used to identify the ORFs (SEQ ID NOs.: 6214-42397) whose gene products (SEQ ID NOs. 42398-78581) were inhibited by the nucleic acids comprising the nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NOs. 1-6213. Table IB lists the clone name and the PathoSeq Locus containing the clone.

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TABLE IB

Clone Name	Gene	Clone Name	Gene	Clone Name	Gene
Cione Ivanic	LocusID	Cione ramo	LocusID		LocusID
E3M10000001B01	EFA205257	E1M10000233C05	ECO103161	S1M10000005E05	SAU802496
E3M10000001B01	EFA205258	E1M10000233H05	ECO103224	S1M10000005C06	SAU802121
E3M10000001A02	EFA205257	E1M10000233H05	ECO103225	S1M10000005D06	SAU801183
E3M10000001A02	EFA205258	E1M10000233D08	ECO103185	S1M10000005D06	SAU801184
E3M10000001102	EFA205225	E1M10000233F08	ECO103265	S1M10000005A07	SAU800967
E3M10000001B02	EFA201977	E1M10000233F08	ECO103266	S1M10000005B07	SAU802496
E3M10000001B02	EFA203137	E1M10000233A09	ECO104092	S1M10000005D07	SAU801264
E3M10000001E02	EFA200840	E1M10000233A09	ECO104093	S1M10000005A08	SAU802496
E3M10000001D02	EFA202003	E1M10000233E09	ECO103238	S1M10000005B08	SAU800548
E3M10000001E02	EFA200840	E1M10000233E09	ECO103239	S1M10000005D08	SAU800607
E3M10000001E02	EFA200807	E1M10000233F09	ECO103886	S1M10000005E08	SAU802496
E3M10000001102	EFA205257	E1M10000233D10	ECO103242	S1M10000005B09	SAU800122
E3M10000001G02	EFA205258	E1M10000233D10	ECO103243	S1M10000005C09	SAU801481
E3M10000001G02	EFA200811	E1M10000233H10	ECO100094	S1M10000005D09	SAU800542
E3M10000001H02	EFA201987	E1M10000234E01	ECO103884	S1M10000005A10	SAU801723
E3M10000001E03	EFA205258	E1M10000234E01	ECO103886	S1M10000005A10	SAU801722
E3M10000001E03	EFA201987	E1M10000234G02	ECO103233	S1M10000005A11	SAU801644
E3M10000001G03	EFA205258	E1M10000234G02	ECO103234	S1M10000005C11	SAU801113
E3M10000001G03	EFA201987	E1M10000234G02	ECO103181	S1M10000005D11	SAU800547
E3M10000001H03	EFA205258	E1M10000234C07	ECO103844	S1M10000005E11	SAU800155
E3M100000011103	EFA201980	E1M10000234C08	ECO103878	S1M10000005B12	SAU802160
E3M10000001D04	EFA201981	E1M10000234C08	ECO204942	S1M10000005B12	SAU603460
E3M10000001D04	EFA205229	E1M10000234E08	EC0204942 EC0103461	S1M10000005D12	SAU801644
E3M10000001D04	EFA203229 EFA201028	E1M10000234H08	ECO103226	S1M10000005E12	SAU801264
E3M10000001E04	EFA201028	E1M10000234F09	ECO103225	S1M10000006B02	SAU800381
E3M10000001F04	EFA200811 EFA201993	E1M10000234F09	ECO103033	S1M10000006E02	SAU802496
	EFA201993 EFA201980	E1M10000234D10	ECO100876	S1M10000006F02	SAU802160
E3M10000001H04 E3M10000001H04	EFA201980 EFA201981	E1M10000234G10	ECO100880	S1M10000006G02	SAU802125
E3M10000001H04	EFA201981 EFA205229	E1M10000234B12 E1M10000235D01	ECO102233	S1M10000006A03	SAU802496
E3M10000001H04	EFA203229 EFA201993	E1M10000235D01	ECO102233	S1M1000000A03	SAU802655
	EFA201993	E1M10000235A03 E1M10000235H03	ECO100798	S1M10000006D03	SAU801740
E3M10000001D05	EFA201974 EFA201975	E1M10000235H03	ECO103880	S1M10000000E03	SAU801256
E3M10000001D05	EFA201973	E1M10000235E04	ECO103230 ECO103886	S1M10000006E03	SAU801230
E3M10000001G05 E3M10000001G05		E1M10000233B00	ECO103880 ECO103481	S1M10000006G03	SAU801275
	EFA202003	E1M10000235B08	ECO103481 ECO103885	S1M10000006A04	SAU801273
E3M10000001A06 E3M10000001F06	EFA201028	E1M10000235E08	ECO103883	S1M10000006B04	SAU802496
l	EFA201028 EFA201028	E1M10000235E08	ECO103101 ECO101848	S1M10000006C04	SAU802158
E3M10000001B08 E3M10000001E08	EFA201028 EFA200807	E1M10000235H09	ECO101848	S1M10000006E04	SAU801089
E3M10000001E08	EFA200807 EFA200839	E1M10000235H09	ECO103481 ECO103482	S1M10000006E04	SAU801644
	EFA200839 EFA201987	E1M10000235H09	ECO103482 ECO100886	S1M10000000104	SAU801740
E3M10000001D09 E3M10000001D09	EFA201987	E1M10000235B10	ECO100880 ECO102299	S1M10000000G04	SAU802224
E3M10000001E09	EFA203238 EFA201987	E1M10000235A11 E1M10000235F12	ECO102233	S1M10000006A05	SAU802223
E3M10000001E09	EFA201987	E1M10000235F12	ECO103233 ECO103234	S1M10000006D05	SAU802223 SAU802496
			ECO103234 ECO100095	S1M10000000B05	SAU801256
E3M10000001B10	EFA205257 EFA205258	E1M10000236E01 E1M10000236A02	ECO100093 ECO102340	S1M10000006G03	SAU800331
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E3M10000022F06	ł			S1M10000012C05	SAU801741
E3M10000022B07				S1M10000012D05	SAU800424
	J	J	<u>-l</u> -		